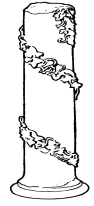


Science: KS3

Cemetery Science

On site and In school Activities: Teacher Notes



Lye and Wollescote Cemetery and Chapels is a fantastic resource for exploring and investigating science topics. With a vast array of flora and fauna, different types of materials and real evidence of the impact of the weather on our surroundings, pupils can really experience science alive.

The activity included here asks pupils to explore the effects of weathering on materials used for constructing gravestones in the cemetery.

Curriculum Links: Key Stages 3

Science: –

Working Scientifically

Experimenting and observing

Analysing and evaluating

Other areas you could use LWCC as a resource could include:

A focus on cells and reproduction, decomposition and decay

Relationships in an ecosystem

Materials and chemical reactions

Suggested prior knowledge: Continuing scientific understanding across the Key Stages.

Activity Objectives: To explore the effects of weathering on rocks. To investigate which rocks used for gravestones and statues last the longest.

Introduction: Provide a brief history of Lye and Wollescote Cemetery and Chapel and outline the reason for your visit linked to your chosen activity. If in class, please use some of the gravestone photographs in our **Image Bank** section to help you.

Main Task: Using “Which Gravestones Survive?” activity worksheet, follow the instructions to gather information. You could make use of iPads and/or digital cameras to help you.

Plenary: Discuss what modern materials could be used for gravestones/gravemarkers.

Suggested Follow up and Extension Activities: Information and data gathered from activities will provide various opportunities for computing work and class display. Use what you have found out to influence creative writing and poetry activities. Why not send us examples of your work to be added to our website?

Materials required: Activity specific please see activity notes: General equipment could include:

Clip boards/iPads/digital cameras

Post-it notes/flip chart (in school)

Whiteboard/pencils/paper (in school)

Useful websites:

www.stemclubs.net - ideas for activities and experiments

www.stemnet.org.uk - activity ideas and support/training

www.alliance4theblackcountry.co.uk - local STEM co-ordinator contacts

www.earthscienceeducation.com - educational resource site with activities