Dinosaurs and volcanoes are popular subjects among children of primary school age, and can be a good introduction to broader science topics. How old are the rocks around us? Why do they have different textures? How did animals become fossils, and how did they get into a rock?

The aim of this course is to give primary school teachers with no previous experience of Earth Science the opportunity and materials to familiarise themselves with this fascinating subject, and to incorporate it into their teaching.

The course will comprise a short introduction to Earth Science, covering concepts such as the geological timescale and the structure of the Earth; a practical session on rocks and minerals; a ‘rock walk’ around the University campus and an interactive session on fossils and the history of life on Earth. Each teacher will receive a set of replica fossils and a set of rock specimens, together with a poster sized geological map of the UK to take away and use for activities within their school.

Programme

3:30 Arrival and refreshments
3:45 Introduction to Earth Science
  • Geological time
  • Structure of the Earth
4:00 Rocks and minerals
  • The rock cycle
  • Igneous rocks
  • Sedimentary rocks
  • Metamorphic rocks
5:00 Refreshments and a chance to try out your new rock identification skills on campus.
5:45 Fossils
  • What is a fossil?
  • Body and trace fossils
  • Fossils through time
6:30 End

To book a place or for more information email p.carbo@leeds.ac.uk

Please include your name, job title and school