Big Jurassic Classroom – Activities Overview

Activity	Ages	Topics	Cross-curricular links	Description of Activity	Equipment
Why has my body turned to stone?	3-7	Fossils Rocks Time	Science	By ordering cartoon images of Ichthyosaur becoming a fossil, children find out how a living creature gets turned into stone.	Cartoon images of ichthyosaur from Lottie's Activity pack, scissors
What will become a fossil in the future?	3-7	Fossils Time Climate change	Science	Thinking about fossils that are found today, children sort pictures of objects that will and will not become fossils.	Pictures from Lottie's Activity pack, scissors
Washing line of time	3-7	Time Fossils	Science Art & Design History	Children are asked to put pictures in the correct time order to create a washing line of time.	Colouring pens, piece of string, pegs, scissors, tape, glue, picture of yourself & older family member, pictures & frame templates from Lottie's activity pack
Salt dough fossils	3-7	Fossils Rocks	Science Art & Design	Using salt dough and dinosaur toys, children can create fossils.	Flour, salt, cold coffee, used coffee grounds, bowls, wooden spoon; small toy animal or dinosaur figure
Let's dig for fossils	3-7	Fossils	Science Art & Design	Create a fantastic mini fossil dig that you can share with your friends so that they can practice looking for fossils.	Plastic tray, sticky tac, small rocks, toy dinosaurs or fossils, sand, paint brush, notebook
How do I make fossils?	3-7	Fossils Rocks	Science Art & Design	Make fossils using Plaster of Paris.	Modelling clay, toy dinosaur, fossil, shell or leaf, plastic container, plaster of Paris, jug, spoon
How can rocks tell a story?	3-7	Rocks Time	Science Geography	Children make a rock layer and imagining what plants and animals might have been around can tell a fantastic story of changing climate and exotic animals and plants that lived in an ancient world.	Transparent plastic cup, teaspoon, water, a cup each of sand, gravel, shells or beads

Dinosaur footprint mystery	3-7	Dinosaurs Fossils	Science Art & Design English/Literacy	Children create their own dinosaur trackway mystery and tell a gruesome story of a dinosaur fight.	Large sugar paper, A4 paper, potatoes, sharp knife, images of dinosaur footprints, scissors, feathers, brown and red paint, footprint templates from Lottie's pack
Can you solve a bony puzzle?	3-7	Fossils rocks	Science Geography	Children learn that fossilised bones can be scattered in the rocks. Using separate pictures of fossilised bones, children are asked to recreate an Ichthyosaur.	Dinosaur bone images from Lottie's pack
What is the Jurassic Coast?	7-11	Rocks	Science Geography History	In response to a series of stimulus pictures, children create their own agenda for enquiry by formulating their own questions from their imagination.	Worksheets from the activity pack
Linking the Past to the Present	7-11	Rocks Time Climate change	Science Geography Maths	In this activity, children explore the links between ancient environments of the Jurassic Coast and modern-day analogues (hot, arid deserts, tropical jungles, and white sandy beaches). Children will match picture clues to climate graphs.	Globe, atlas, Jurassic Coast map, worksheets from the activity pack
Make a Model of the Jurassic Coast	7-11	Rocks	Science Geography	In this activity we explore the key elements of the rock cycle and how it can help us to understand the formation of the three main rock types: sedimentary, igneous and metamorphic. Using these principles, we then build our own model of the Jurassic Coast out of playdough.	Modelling clay (4 colours), wooden lolly stick, grated 200g milk/dark and white chocolate, 30 plastic cups, cling film, worksheets from the activity pack

How do fossils form?	7-11	Fossils Time	Science Geography English/Literacy	Children debate what will become fossils of the future using a series of picture cards that show modern day animals and plants. As a further investigation and linking to English, children put a storyboard in the correct order that tells of an lchthyosaur that becomes a fossil.	Picture cards & worksheets from the activity pack
Jurassic Coast Timeline	7-11	Rocks Time	Science Geography History Maths	Children use picture cards to understand the concept of different time periods. Then using a toilet roll, they chart the history of time from the birth of the Earth all the way to the present day.	Picture cards, timeline images & worksheets from the activity pack, toilet roll/wallpaper
Jurassic Food Webs	7-11	Food webs Habitats	Science Art & Design	Using Duria Antiquior as an inspiration, children recreate their own interpretation of a Jurassic sea, including the animals that would have preyed on each other. This examination of predator, prey, producer and consumer relationships is investigated further in a Jurassic Top Trumps card game.	Film clip, pictures & Top Trump cards from the activity pack
Fossil detectives	7-11	Dinosaurs Fossils	Science Maths	Children will explore how to recognise and categorise fossils, including trace fossils. By creating dinosaur footprint trackways, children can calculate walking speeds of an Iguanodon and compare it to how they walk.	Fossils (if possible), images of fossils, worksheets & cardboard footprints (scaled from templates) from activity pack, tape measures, paper, pencils, clipboards
Dinosaur Top Trumps	7-11	Dinosaurs Fossils Food webs	Science Maths	In this activity we explore four dinosaurs : Megalosaur and Baryonyx (carnivores) and Polacanthus and Iguanodon (herbivores). Children create their own dinosaur Top Trumps cards using the clues that have been provided and can then pitch each dinosaur against each other after giving each quality a star rating.	Top Trumps & worksheets from activity pack, a variety of fruits, tape measure, Gelli Baff, rubber dog toys, 2 large storage crates

How did ammonites move?	7-11	Fossils	Science Art & Design PE	Children create artwork to show how the fossils might have looked like when they were alive. Using a human and a fish skeleton as a comparator, children explore muscles and bones to discuss what they do and how they help us move. Children then examine the internal structure of ammonites and can recreate how they move in a PE lesson.	Film clip & worksheets from the activity pack
Mary Anning	7-11	Fossils Time	Science History	Children explore the town of Lyme Regis where Mary Anning lived. Using historical and modern- day pictures, they will compare and contrast how the area has changed. Then using artefacts or pictures of objects as a stimulus, children will be asked to research what Mary's life was like and respond to her story.	Worksheet & role play cards from the activity pack
Survival of the Fittest	7-11	Fossils Time	Science Art & Design	Children are assigned an animal from a modern-day environment and using modern day scenarios test whether their animal can survive or adapt. This leads on to looking at Jurassic creatures and evaluating how and if they have adapted and survived to the present day. If they have become extinct, children are asked to explore why that is.	Mini white boards & pens, Jurassic Creature Cards & worksheets from the activity pack
Rock Detectives	7-11	Fossils Time	Science Geography	Children learn how to describe and compare rocks and soils. Using these skills, children then create their own geological stories and then make their own sedimentary rock cliff.	Soil samples, plastic cups, water, plastic spoons, rock samples, hand lenses
What Makes the Best Building Stone?	7-11	Rocks	Science Geography History	This activity retells the story of the three little pigs but with the inclusion of rocks found along the Jurassic Coast instead of hay, sticks and bricks.	Junk modelling materials to build model house, scissors, glue, magnets, worksheets from the activity pack