Activities

1. Create a model of the layers of the Earth using a range of materials. Label each layer and write a short description about each layer’s features.

2. There are three main rock types. These are sedimentary, igneous and metamorphic. Briefly describe how each type is formed, their properties and at least two examples of each type.

3. Use a range of sources to complete a table about the three different rocks shown below. Include type, appearance, properties and uses.

   - chalk
   - granite
   - slate

4. Investigate the soil in your garden and local area. Dig a hole 10cm deep and scoop up a handful of soil from the bottom. Remove large stones and roots, sprinkle a little water on it and try to work the soil into a ball. Use the soil key to identify the soil type and record your results. **Be careful of broken glass and wash your hands afterwards.**

   **Soil key**

   - **Start**
     - Can the soil be made into a ball without crumbling? **→ Yes**
     - Squash the ball to try to flatten it. Does the ball break apart when squashed? **→ Yes**
     - Your soil is **silty.**
     - **No**
     - Your soil is **clay.**
     - **No**
     - Your soil is **sandy.**
5. Make an information poster about Mary Anning, the famous fossil collector. Include images and interesting facts. Share your poster with a family member once it is complete.

6. Write a poem on the theme of volcanoes. You might like to write about an eruption, a specific volcano that you have learned about or the damage caused after a volcanic eruption. Try to include expanded noun phrases in your poem. For example, scorching hot, exploding lava or jet-black clouds.

7. Find the latitude and longitude coordinates for 10 places around the world. Record the places and coordinates in a table.

8. Imagine that you have just experienced an earthquake. Write a short story about what happened. Use topic vocabulary to describe the strength of the earthquake, such as tremor, epicentre, magnitude and seismic wave.

9. Finish your home learning by writing a summary of the topic, explaining what you have learned about the layers of the Earth, volcanoes and earthquakes.

Useful websites
DKfindout! – Earth’s Layers – Inside the Earth
Britannica Kids – Plate tectonics
DKfindout! – Rocks and Minerals
National Geographic Kids – Mary Anning Facts!
DKfindout! – How Tectonic Plates Move
BBC Bitesize – Latitude and Longitude
DKfindout! – Earthquake Facts

Good reads

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Author</th>
<th>ISBN</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Earth (DKfindout!)</td>
<td>DK</td>
<td>9780241285107</td>
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<tr>
<td>A Finders’ Guide to Rocks, Fossils and Soils (Collins Big Cat)</td>
<td>Alison Milford</td>
<td>9780008208776</td>
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<tr>
<td>Everything Volcanoes and Earthquakes</td>
<td>National Geographic Kids</td>
<td>9780008267810</td>
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<tr>
<td>Volcanoes and Earthquakes Activity Book (KS2 Discover and Learn)</td>
<td>CGP</td>
<td>9781782949732</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mary Anning: The Girl Who Cracked Open The World</td>
<td>Debora Pearson</td>
<td>9780435164546</td>
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