

RISK ASSESSMENT MARY ANNING – FOSSIL MAKING ACTIVITY

ACTIVITY:	MARY ANNING FOSSIL MAKING ACTIVITY	DATE:	17.2.17
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PERSONS AT RISK- AFFECTED BY ACTIVITY:	Persons observing and participating in the activity	NUMBER	0 - 30
ANY VULNERABLE PERSONS AFFECTED BY ACTIVITY:	Children	NUMBER	0 - 30

POTENTIAL HAZARDS		Assessment of Risk		
REF.		Low	Med	High
1	Tripping over table legs or chairs when participating in activities.	x		
2	Use of plaster of paris in fossil making activity – Spillages could cause a hazard. Mild breathing difficulties due to the inhalation of the fine powder Irritation to eyes and skin, ingestion. Heat burns to skin.	x		
3	Use of clay – possible allergies or issues if clay is ingested or gets in eyes.	x		
4	When pressing plaster ammonite into clay it could break and plaster could get in child's eye.			
5	Use of water to mix plaster – could get spilt and cause a slip hazard.	x		

EXISTING CONTROL MEASURES
<p>1. Allow enough space so individuals will not fall over table legs or each other. Remove any obvious trip hazards from work area. Children should be encouraged to sit down when carrying out the activities.</p> <p>2. Checks should be made prior to commencing activity that none of the children have allergies to plaster of paris.</p> <p>Pupils should work with small volumes of plaster of paris which have been measured out by an adult before the session starts. Children should wear safety goggles and overalls if possible to protect eyes and clothing. Pupils should be supervised at all times when working with plaster of paris. Before session starts it should be explained to pupils about the need to handle the powder with care to minimise the chance of dust. It should also be explained that it can get hotter as it solidifies and so they must not touch the plaster/water mix. If contact occurs with the skin wash of immediately with water. Ensure room is well ventilated. Pupils should thoroughly wash hands after use with soap and water. Plaster of Paris should be stored in secure packaging/container and in a safe location and kept out of children's reach when in storage</p> <p>First Aid measures: Have access to First aider and sterile eye irrigation solution and an eye wash station. Medical attention is advisable if any symptoms persist Inhalation: Remove person to fresh air Skin contact: Flush skin with running water before washing with water and soap. Eye contact: Wash the eyes, including opening eyelids, with plenty of clean water (minimum 15 minutes) and seek medical advice if irritation persists Ingestion: Wash out mouth and drink plenty of water. DO NOT INDUCE VOMITING. Get medical assistance immediately.</p> <p>Any spillages are cleaned up promptly using a dust pan and brush and put in a bin.</p>

CONTROL SHEETS & FORMS

3. Clay is regarded as non toxic and is not considered a health risk. Children should be encouraged to wear overalls during this activity to protect clothing. Once activity is completed the children should wash their hands thoroughly with soap and water.

Checks should be made prior to commencing activity that none of the children have allergies to clay. Pupils should be closely supervised to avoid clay getting into the eyes. If this occurs the following first aid measures should be followed.

First Aid Measures if required;

INHALATION Not applicable

SKIN CONTACT Wash affected area with soap and water.

EYE CONTACT Rinse immediately with plenty of clean water to remove any of the material. If irritation persists seek medical attention.

INGESTION Rinse out the mouth with plenty of water and give water to drink. If the quantity is significant or the subject feels unwell seek medical attention.

SPILL CLEAN UP METHODS Spills should be cleaned up immediately to avoid a slip hazard. Clean up any spillages with paper towels and water and ensure area is safe and dry. Paper towels can be disposed of in the bin.

4. Pupils should wear safety goggles to protect their eyes. Any broken plaster should be disposed of immediately in waste bin.

5. Any spillages of water should be cleaned up immediately with an absorbent material such as paper towel to avoid a slip hazard.

6. A first aider should always be present in case of accident.

7. A first aid kit should always be available in case of an accident.

INITIAL ASSESSMENT OF OVERALL RISK	LOW	X	MEDIUM		HIGH	
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RISK RATING = SEVERITY x LIKELIHOOD		
Rating	SEVERITY of injury/disease	LIKELIHOOD of occurrence
HIGH	Fatality; major injury or illness causing long term disability	Certain or near certain to occur
MEDIUM	Injury or illness causing short term disability	Reasonably likely to occur
LOW	Other injury or illness	Unlikely to occur

ADDITIONAL CONTROL MEASURES - (IF APPLICABLE)	PERSON RESPONSIBLE FOR IMPLEMENTATION	COMPLETION DATE
None required		

RESIDUAL ASSESSMENT OF OVERALL RISK	LOW	X	MEDIUM		HIGH	
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Note: Re-assessment required if overall residual risk is High

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

(Notes, comments, further details, outline procedures, safe systems of work, standards, drawings, etc.)

In this section of the workshop children will be making ammonite fossils using clay to make a mould and plaster of paris. A number of precautions have been put in place to keep risks to a minimum. These include an explanation of activity including awareness of risks to children prior to commencing activity, close supervision during activity, making sure children are not allergic to clay or plaster of paris, avoiding trip hazards, wearing overalls if possible and safety goggles and washing hands after activity. Pupils will work with low volumes of plaster of paris. The overall risk for these activities when precautions are applied is LOW.

Signature of responsible person:		Date:	
		17.2.17	
Assessor:	Mandy Hartley	Signature:	
Date Assessed:	17.2.17	Review Date:	17.2.17