Making a rock collection
A collection of the common rocks found in the community can be made by asking each pupil to bring in one piece of rock. Explain to the pupils that it will not be necessary to know the names of all the rocks. Similar specimens may be placed together on a table. Divide the collected rocks into groups based on differences of shape, colour and other characteristics. Try to find as many ways as possible of grouping the rocks.

Studying a single rock
Select a single rock and try to learn as much as possible about it from careful observation. If it is flat, it is probably a piece or layer from some sedimentary formation. Such rocks were formed by the hardening of sediments laid down millions of years ago. If the rock appears to be made of fine sand grains cemented together it is probably sandstone. If it is made up of larger pebbles cemented together, it is probably another sedimentary rock called conglomerate. If the rock appears to be rounded, it is probably the result of the stream action of water. Examine the rock with a magnifying glass. If it contains little flecks and crystals, it is a granitelikey rock and was probably pushed up from deep in the earth long ago. Careful observation of several rocks in this manner will interest pupils in their further collection and study.