

Pupil Sheet

Planning Guidelines:

You have seen a map of the churchyard and pictures of some of the gravestones. Now **read this sheet and then plan an investigation** which you can do when you visit the churchyard.



When you go to the churchyard, you will be working in groups of about three people, but this planning part is for you to do **on your own**.

Here are some ideas which you could **choose** from to investigate:

- Which rock types are the most popular today?
- Was this the same 50, 100, 150 years ago?
- Which rock types resist weathering best?
- Does it make any difference which way a gravestone faces?
- Are vertical stones weathered more quickly than horizontal ones?
- On which gravestone rock types do lichens and mosses grow best?
- Do lichens and mosses speed up the weathering of gravestones?
- Are graves beneath trees weathered more quickly than those in the open?
- OR, you can investigate your own ideas.

Hints:

- a) You will need to identify the main rock types - granite, sandstone, marble and gneiss. How can you do this without damaging them? (You may ask a member of staff to add one drop of acid to each gravestone, if it helps you).
- b) How can you find out how long each gravestone has been there?
- c) How can you collect enough information to draw valid conclusions?
- d) How can you keep tidy records?
- e) How can you show which part of the graveyard you were working in?
- f) Will you need to compare one part of the graveyard with another?
- g) How can you look for the effects of **one** variable at a time?

WRITE DOWN IN DETAIL WHAT YOU ARE PLANNING TO DO

Some 'do's and don'ts:

- DO** bring warm clothing and a coat - it usually rains!
- DO** respect the feelings of any other visitors.
- DO NOT** clamber about on the graves any more than you can help.
- DO NOT** make a lot of noise.
- DO NOT** wander out of earshot.