# SSERC logo

**SSERC Risk Assessment** (revised version March 2018)

(based on HSE’s INDG 163 ‘Risk assessment - A brief guide to controlling risks in the workplace’)

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| Activity assessed | Rocks and Minerals |
| *Date of assessment* | 30th June 2020 |
| *Date of review (****Step 5****)* |  |
| *School* |  |
| *Department* |  |

| Step 1 | Step 2 | Step 3 | Step 4 | | | | |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| *List Significant hazards here:* | *Who might be harmed and how?* | *What are you already doing?*  *What further action is needed?* | *Actions* | | | | |
| *by whom?* | | *Due date* | | *Done* |
| Magnesium sulphate, sediment solution and silver sand have no hazard |  |  |  |  | |  | |
| Stearic acid is an irritant | Technician, teacher by contact on skin | Wear eye protection and consider gloves |  |  | |  | |

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| **Description of activity:**  Making sedimentary rocks using a saturated solution of magnesium sulphate (Epsom salts) and silver sand. Mixing the 2 reagents and then drying in an oven.  Making metamorphic rocks by heating and squeezing a layered mixture of soft diary fudge and candle wax in a sealed zip bag and allowing it to cool in crushed ice.  Making igneous rocks by heating solid stearic acid and quickly cooling it in cold water and slowly cooling it in a paper cup surrounded by sand. |
| **Additional comments:**  Copper sulphate and lead nitrate are harmful to the environment.  Solutions should not be poured down the sink but kept for disposal by a licensed contractor. |