# 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. |