

Loan Box

Explore:

# Building Materials of Plymouth

Teachers Resource



Museum  
Gallery  
Archive

# Loan Box



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# Introduction

This Teacher's Resource accompanies the schools Loan Box, Explore: Building Materials of Plymouth, available to hire from The Box, Plymouth.

Go to [theboxplymouth.com](http://theboxplymouth.com) to book your visit.

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# Risk assessment

Please conduct a risk assessment of these objects before using them with your class. Some of the objects included within this box have sharp edges, which you might need to treat with care with your students.

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# Lost/damaged items

If you have lost or damaged any items, please inform us as soon as possible, using this email address: [TheBoxLearning@plymouth.gov.uk](mailto:TheBoxLearning@plymouth.gov.uk)

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## What's in the box?

This Loan Box is full of amazing samples of building materials used on various buildings in the city. The materials were kindly donated by Albion Stone, Bardon Aggregates, Breedon Aggregates, Burlington Stone, Ibstock, Plymouth Stone, STO and TECU.

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## Materials

Cornish Granite  
Black Granite  
Green Westmorland Slate  
Plymouth Limestone  
Portland Stone  
Dartmoor Granite  
Delabole Slate  
Copper - Patina  
White Render  
Red Brick

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**Cornish Granite** - silver background with varying small sized flecks in black, grey and white.

Used for the support columns of the Tamar Bridge and parts of the Royal William Yard. This piece is from De Lank Quarry, Cornwall. Supplied by Breedon Aggregates.

**Black Granite** - Dense black with small specks of silver and a polished finish.

Used as the base of many buildings on Armada Way. It comes from India. Supplied by Plymouth Stone.

**Green Westmorland Slate** - Mid green, often highlighted with contrasting and tonal changes / contrasts.

Used as cladding on the Civic Centre, Crown Courts and the Post Office, St Andrew's Cross. This piece is from Cumbria. Supplied by Burlington Stone.

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**Plymouth Limestone** - Coloured patterns with veins of white, streaks of red in the background and shades of grey.

Used as paving on the Barbican and outside The Box as paving and cladding, along with many buildings across the city. This piece is from Moorcroft Quarry in Plymstock, supplied by Bardon Aggregates.

**Portland Stone** - A fine grained, light cream, granular and sometimes fossiliferous, with a honed or dressed finish.

Used on the facade of many Plymouth buildings, including Dingles, Derry's and Debenhams. This stone is often confused for concrete and has led to Plymouth's occasional reputation as a 'concrete city' - which is totally wrong! It is sourced from Dorset and was supplied by Albion Stone.

**Dartmoor Granite** - Silver with varying larger sized flecks in black, grey, yellow and white.

Used on the columns of the Royal Bank of Scotland, supplied by Plymouth Stone.

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**Delabole Slate** - Dense grey with green tones.

Used on the base of the Civic Centre. From Cornwall, supplied by Plymouth Stone.

**Copper - Patina** - Over time and with weathering, copper changes from its brown tones to turquoise.

Used on the Unitarian and Baptist Churches on Catherine and Notte Street and on the Royal Bank of Scotland. Supplied by TECU.

**White Render** - White with a large granular texture. Used on newer buildings in the city, such as Pinnacle Quay and Plymouth College of Art. Supplied by STO.

**Red Brick** - Found on a few buildings in the city centre, such as the former Western Mornign News building on New George Street and Christ the King Church, Notte Street. Supplied by Ibstock.

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**[theboxplymouth.com](http://theboxplymouth.com)**



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