

Year 3: Rocks

TYPES OF ROCKS:



SEDIMENTARY

Sedimentary rocks are formed from pre-existing rocks or pieces of once-living organisms.

They are formed when small, weathered fragments of rocks or shell settle and stick together.

Sedimentary rocks often have distinctive layering or bedding.

EXAMPLES:

Limestone and sandstone



IGNEOUS

Igneous rocks form when hot, molten rock, usually from a volcano, crystallizes and solidifies as it cools.

The melt originates deep with the Earth near active plate boundaries or hot spots, then rises toward the surface

There are two type: intrusive and extrusive

EXAMPLES:

Granite and basalt.



METAMORPHIC

Metamorphic rocks started out as some other type of rock, but have been substantially changed from their original form.

Metamorphic rocks are formed when rocks in the Earth's crust get squashed and heated in processes such as when tectonic plates press against each other.

EXAMPLES:

Marble and slate.

FOSSILS:



Fossils are formed when a plant or animal dies and is quickly covered with silt, or mud, so that it cannot be rotten by microbes or eaten by scavenging animals.

In time layers of sediment build, squashing the mud and turning it into stone around the dead plant or animal.

The materials in the body are replaced by minerals that flow in water through the rock, leaving a rock in the shape of the animal or plant that was once there.

ROCKS AND SOIL:



A rock is a naturally occurring material

Rocks can be hard and soft

Some rocks have different sized grains or crystals

Soil is made from tiny particles of rock, broken down by the action of weather (weathering)



KEY VOCABULARY



ABSORB: able to soak up



FOSSIL: the remains or imprint of a prehistoric plant or animal in a rock



MAGMA: molten rock that is formed in very hot conditions inside the earth



MOLTEN ROCK: rock that has been melted at a really high temperature



SEDIMENTARY ROCKS: rocks that are formed by sediment



DECOMPOSE: decay or cause decay.



GRAIN: a tiny, hard piece of something e.g. sand or soil



METAMORPHIC ROCK: rocks that are formed when their original structure is changed by heat and pressure.



PRESERVED: to be protected from decay



SOIL: the substance where plants grow



EROSION: the process in which materials are worn away and transported by natural resources such as wind or water,



IGNEOUS ROCK: rocks that are formed by molten magma from volcanoes



MINERALS: formed naturally in rocks and in the earth



SEDIMENT: solid material that settles at the bottom of liquid



WEATHERED: changed or altered by the weather