

Year 3 – Science – Autumn 1 - Rocks

Key Facts:

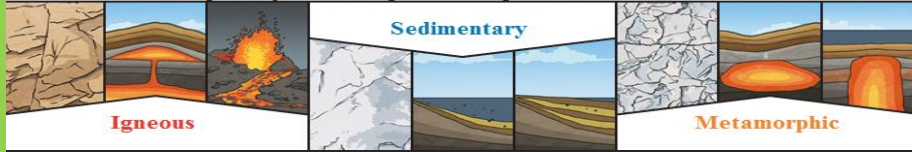
Rocks are made up of grains that are packed together.

Minerals are solid chemical substances that occur naturally.

Fossils are the remains or impressions of a

Key words: rock, mineral, fossil, igneous, metamorphic, sedimentary, magma, lava.

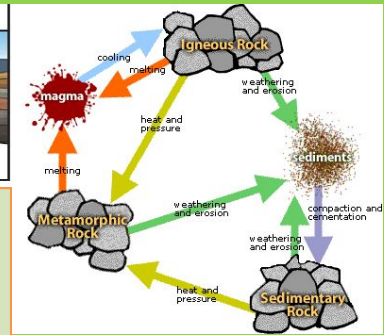
There are three types of naturally occurring rock.



What will I learn?

You will look at different types of rocks and study their properties.

You will explore how fossils are formed and look at how soils are formed.



TYPES OF ROCKS

IGNEOUS ROCKS - are very hard, dark and heavy. They are formed when molten magma from a volcano cools down. They tend to have interlocking grains giving the rock a crystalline appearance. **EXAMPLES:** granite, basalt, obsidian.

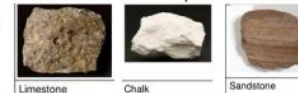


METAMORPHIC ROCKS - are rocks which have been changed over time by pressure or heat. Fossils can be found in metamorphic rocks if plants and animals have been trapped in the rocks. They are hard but can be damaged by acids.



EXAMPLES: slate, marble

SEDIMENTARY ROCKS - are formed by sediment (which includes minerals, small pieces of plants and other organic matter) that is deposited over time. The sediment is compressed over a long period of time before it becomes solid layers of rock.

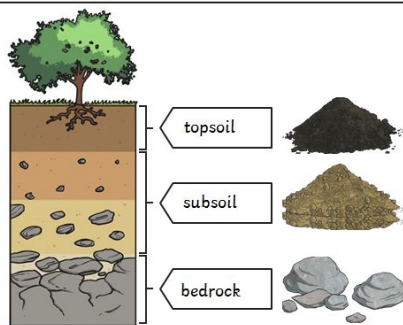


EXAMPLES: sandstone, limestone, flint, chalk

Soil

Soil is the uppermost layer of the Earth. It is a mixture of different things:

- minerals (the minerals in soil come from finely broken-down rock);
- air;
- water;
- organic matter (including living and dead plants and animals).



Activity – have a look at the rocks and soil you have in your garden/around where you live. What do you notice? Can you identify any different rocks?