



Coleman Primary School

Year 3 Autumn 2 Knowledge Organiser

You already know...

- how to identify everyday materials including rock (Y1).
- how to identify and compare everyday materials including rock (Y2).

You will learn to...

- compare and group rocks.
- test for and describe some properties of rocks.
- describe some ways that rocks are made.

The three main types of rocks

Sedimentary Rocks



Limestone is a good example of a sedimentary rock. They often contain fossils. These are formed when small pieces of bones or shells of animals are pressed into layers of rock over many years.

Metamorphic Rocks



Slate is a good example of a metamorphic rock. These are formed when sedimentary rocks are changed by heat or pressure. When this happens any fossils are destroyed.

Igneous Rocks



Igneous rocks like granite are very hard, dark and heavy. They are formed when molten magma from a volcano cools down. They do not usually contain fossils.

Scientific Vocabulary: Rocks, Soils and Fossils	
fossil: the prehistoric remains of a plant or animal	permeable: allows water to pass through
igneous: rock formed from magma	palaeontologists: scientists who study the remains of plants and animals that lived millions of years ago
impermeable: does not allow water to pass through	rock: made from one or more minerals
magma: hot liquid rock	sediment: small bits of rock
metamorphic: rock that has been changed by heat or pressure	sedimentary: rock made from sediment
mineral: a natural substance that makes up rock	soil: small particles of rock mixed with decayed plant and animal material

What you will know

- * To know a range of rocks.
- * To know that fossils are formed when minerals replace the body of an animal.
- * To know that soils are formed of rocks and organic material.
- * To know sedimentary, igneous and metamorphic rocks and how they are formed.