

Rock on!



Key Vocabulary

igneous	Rock formed by the cooling of magma.
sedimentary	Rock that has been formed by layers of sediment being pressed down hard and sticking together.
metamorphic	Rock that started out as igneous or sedimentary rock but changed due to being exposed to extreme heat or pressure.
permeable	Something that allows liquid to pass through
impermeable	Something that does not allow liquid to pass through
fossilisation	The process of preserving the remains, impression or trace of a once living thing.
lava	Hot molten or semi-fluid rock erupted from a volcano.
sediment	Solid weathered material
erosion	The process of eroding or being eroded by wind, water, or other natural agents.

Did you know?

Mary Anning was a fossil collector and paleontologist. she made another important discovery – the first ever **Plesiosaur skeleton**!

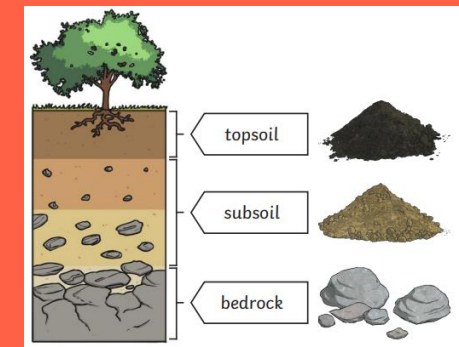
General Knowledge

Different types of rocks have different properties. Some rocks are harder, e.g., **granite** is a very hard rock. This makes it a good material for building as it doesn't wear away easily. **Chalk** is a soft rock and wears away easily. This makes it ideal for making chalk sticks to write on blackboards.

Natural Rocks			Human-Made Rocks
Igneous	Sedimentary	Metamorphic	
Obsidian 	Chalk 	Marble 	Brick 
Granite 	Sandstone 	Quartzite 	Concrete 
Basalt 	Limestone 	Slate 	Coade Stone 

Soils

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).



Fossilisation

An animal dies. It gets covered with **sediments** which eventually become rock.

More layers of rock cover it. Only hard parts of the creature remain, e.g. bones, shells and teeth.

Over thousands of years, **sediment** might enter the mould to make a **cast fossil**. Bones may change to mineral but will stay the same shape.

Changes in sea level take place over a long period.

As **erosion** and weathering take place, eventually the fossil becomes exposed.

