

Year 3 Knowledge Organiser - Science - Rocks and Soils

Types of Rock - There are three main types of rocks

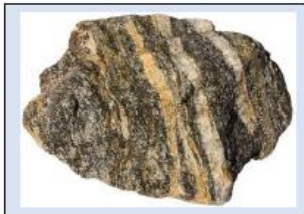
IGNEOUS

Far underground the temperature is so hot, rock melts into a liquid (molten rock). When the liquid is underground it is called magma and it can cool to form igneous rock.



METAMORPHIC

Metamorphic rocks are formed under the surface of the earth from the change (metamorphosis) that occurs under the intense heat and pressure (squeezing).



SEDIMENTARY

These rocks form under the sea. Rocks are broken into small pieces by wind and water (erosion). They settle as mud, sand, minerals and even remains of living things. Over time layers build up and the pressure turns this sediment into rock.



Rock Recognition!



Soils



Top soil - full of nutrients and contains rotting plants and organisms.

Subsoil - tightly packed soil, lighter in colour to the top soil as it contains fewer nutrients.

Rocky soil - rocks that are breaking down in to soil.

Bedrock - just rock.

What is soil made from?



AIR - Oxygen, carbon dioxide, nitrogen etc.



ORGANIC MATTER - Living and dead plants and animals.



WATER - Air and water fill the gaps between particles of soil.



MINERALS - From broken down rock.

Fossils

This is the remains or the impression left by a prehistoric plant or animal embedded in rock.



Key Vocabulary

decay	To rot or decompose.
erosion	When water and wind wear away rocks and soils.
geologist	A person who studies rocks.
permeable	Allows liquid to pass through it. Something that does not allow water to pass through is impermeable .

Read All About it! Can you find these books in your local library?

