

Knowledge Organiser- Science Year 3 – Rocks

Key Vocabulary	Definition
Geology	The study of rocks.
Permeable	Rocks that water can seep through.
Impermeable	Rocks that do not allow water to seep through.
Fossils	The preserved remains or traces of dead organisms. The process by which a fossil is formed called fossilisation.
Soil	Soil is made from small pieces of rock mixed with organic matter (decaying animals and plants).
Sediment	Tiny bits of rock, minerals, animal and plant matter that get washed into bodies of water.



How Rocks are Formed



Sedimentary

Rock that is formed by years and years of sediment (tiny bits of rock, sand, minerals, animals or plant matter) compacting together and becoming hard. E.g., shale, limestone, and sandstone



Igneous


Igneous rocks are formed by volcanoes. When a volcano erupts, it spews out hot molten rock called magma or lava. Eventually the magma will cool down and harden, e.g. Basalt and Granite



Metamorphic

Metamorphic rocks are formed by great heat and pressure inside the Earth's crust. Metamorphic rocks are often made from other types of rock e.g. Marble, soapstone.

Mary Anning



Mary Anning was a palaeontologist who discovered many fossils in the rocks along the cliff edge in Dorset on the south coast of England. Mary taught herself about geology so she knew where to look for fossils.