

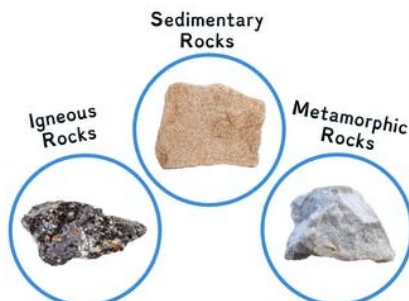


Knowledge Organiser

Science—Rocks Year 3

Types of Rock

Rocks can be split into three different groups depending on how they were created.



- **IGNEOUS ROCKS** - are very hard, dark and heavy. They are formed when molten magma from a volcano cools down. Examples would be granite or 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. Examples would be slate or marble.
- **SEDIMENTARY ROCKS** - are formed by sediment that is built up over time. The sediment is compressed over a long period of time before it becomes solid layers of rock. Examples include sandstone, limestone or chalk.

Key Vocabulary

Rock	Made up of grains that are packed together
Mineral	Solid chemical substances that occur naturally.
Fossil	The remains or impressions of a prehistoric plant or animal embedded in rock.
Igneous	Lava or magma that has turned from liquid to solid (forming a rock)
Metamorphic	An igneous or sedimentary rock that has been changed by extreme heat or pressure.
Sediment	Dead animals, plants or pieces of rock that settles to the bottom of a liquid.
Sedimentary	A rock formed from the build-up of sediment at the bottom of rivers or oceans.
Magma	Liquid rock inside a
Lava	liquid rock which flows out of a volcano (ranges from 700 to 1200 degrees centigrade)

Fossils

When an animal or plant dies, it usually decays quickly or can be eaten.

However, sometimes an animal's body sinks into thick mud where there is no oxygen so the remains don't decay or aren't disturbed.

The remains rest here for thousands or even millions of years with more mud and pressure on them. Minerals in the mud turn the remains to stone.

We have found many different types of fossils, from tiny, microscopic bacteria to enormous dinosaurs!

Mary Anning, a 19th century scientist, is famous for finding fossils in the UK.



What I can do at home

Learn	Find out about some of the biggest or most interesting fossils that have been discovered. Where in the world are most fossils found?
Explore	What types of rock can you find in the area around your house? Go on a walk with an adult; can you

Communicate

Talk to an adult at home about the things below. You don't need to record this.

Fossils give us an excellent picture of the past and what the world was like millions of years ago.

I wonder why people are so interested in things that happened so long ago.