

Year 3: Rocks and soils

Together we embrace difference: All rock and soils have different properties and characteristics.

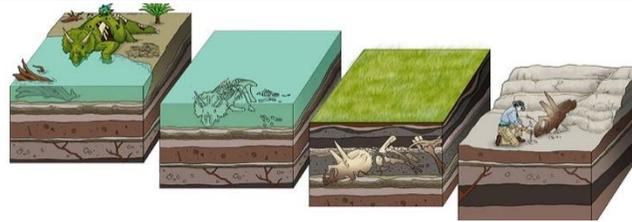
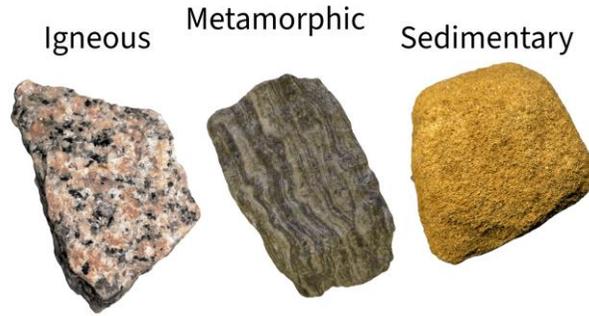
Crucial Knowledge

- Rock is a **naturally** occurring material.
- There are different types of rock e.g. sandstone, limestone, slate etc. which have different **properties**.
- Rocks can be hard or soft.
- Rocks can have different sizes of **grain** or crystal.
- Rocks may be **permeable** or **impermeable** (absorb water or not).

- Soils are made up of pieces of ground down rock which may be mixed with plant and animal material (**organic matter**).
- There are different types of soil (clay, chalk, sandy, peat) which have different **properties**

- Some **sedimentary rocks** contain fossils.
- Fossils are formed when plants or animals are buried by **sediment**. Over millions of years, the sediment hardens into rock, **preserving** the shape of the original plant or animal.

Important images



Key Vocabulary

 properties	 observable characteristics	 permeable
 impermeable	 fossil	 sediment
 sedimentary rock	 durability	 hardness
 Venn diagram	 grain	

Key Concepts

Materials

Materials are what objects are made of. Materials all have different properties which means they are suitable for different purposes. We can compare and group rocks and soils based on their appearance and physical properties.

Crucial Skills (Working Scientifically Skills)

 gather data	 measure capacity using pipettes	 record data in a table	 sort objects into Venn diagrams	 explain findings	 carry out a fair test	 use equipment safely
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