

Knowledge Organiser - Year 3 – Summer Term 2 - Rocks and Soils

Key vocabulary	
rock	Rock is a solid material that forms naturally.
human-made	Human-made materials are produced by humans and do not form naturally.
natural	Natural materials form in nature and are not produced by humans.
permeable	A permeable material allows liquid to pass through it.
impermeable	An impermeable material does not allow liquid to pass through it.
weathering	Weathering is the process whereby rocks break down into smaller pieces or wear away over time because of rain, wind, plants or animals.
fossilisation	Fossilisation is the process through which traces or remains of prehistoric living things become preserved.
soil	Soil is the top layer of the Earth's surface. It provides nutrients and support for plant life and it is made up of minerals (from broken-down rocks), air, water and organic matter (living things that are either dead or alive).

Sedimentary Rocks



Sedimentary rocks form as sediments build up in low-lying areas such as at the bottom of lakes and oceans and in deserts. Sediments can be the remains of plants and animals, minerals or even eroded fragments of other rocks.

Igneous Rocks



Igneous rocks get their name from the igneous meaning 'of fire', or 'fiery'. Igneous rocks are volcanic and are formed when magma (molten rock) cools and hardens. This type of rock makes up around 90% of the rock in the Earth's crust.

Metamorphic Rocks



Metamorphic rocks start out life as igneous or sedimentary rocks which are transformed over time by extreme heat or pressure, or both. They form when the Earth moves, causing rocks to be buried, squeezed, folded and heated.

Key aims: By the end of this unit, you will know about the 3 different rock types and understand how they were formed, name some of those rock types and will have investigated properties of different rocks. You will understand how fossils are formed and how different soil types can be found in different areas and how this can effect how the ground is used.

Natural or Human-Made?

Rock are solid materials that form naturally, which means they form in nature and are not made by humans.



Humans can make materials that look like **rocks** or have similar properties. These **human-made** materials include bricks, cement and tarmac/asphalt.



Examples of Rocks



Types of Soil

