



Year 3 – Rocks

Geology is the study of rocks.

The oldest known fossils are from rocks from about 3.5 billion years ago.

Sometimes rocks from space land on Earth. These rocks are called meteorites.

Vital Vocabulary

Key Word	Definition
sedimentary rock 	Rock that has been formed by layers of sediment being pressed down hard and sticking together
igneous rock 	Rock that has been formed from magma or lava
metamorphic rock 	Rock that started out as igneous or sedimentary but was changed by heat and pressure
magma	Molten rock that remains underground
lava	Molten rock that comes out of the ground is called lava.
permeable	Allows liquid to pass through it
impermeable	Does not allow liquids to pass through it
weathering	When rocks gets worn away and break
sediment	Natural solid materials that is moved and dropped off in a new place by water or wind e.g. sand, pebbles or mud

Types of rock

There are **three** main types of rock.

Their properties depend on how they were formed.

Igneous	Sedimentary	Metamorphic
 Granite Pumice Obsidian	 Limestone Sandstone Conglomerate	 Marble Slate Quartzite

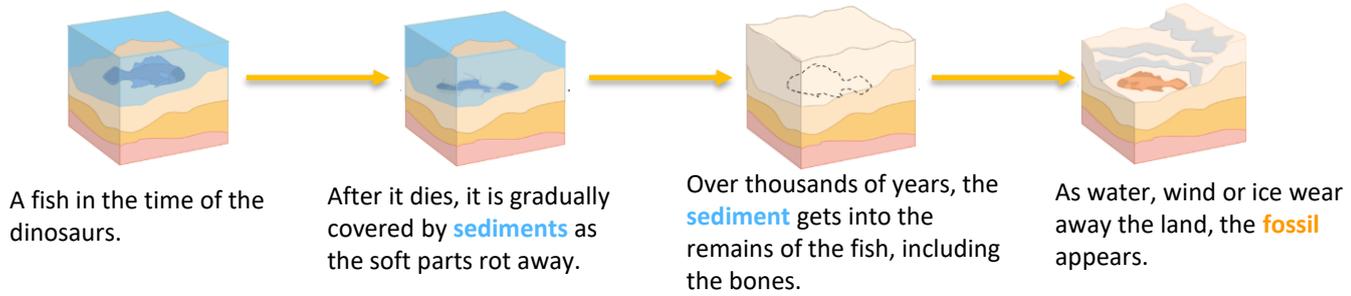
Words to describe rocks: hard, soft, permeable, impermeable, durable (resistant to weathering)

Mary Anning



Mary Anning was an English fossil collector and palaeontologist who became famous for her fossil discoveries in the cliffs along the English Channel.

Fossils Fossils are the remains of living things from **millions of years ago**. The process in which fossils are formed is called **fossilisation**.



Soils Soil is the uppermost layer of the Earth. It is made from four things:

- **minerals** (from finely broken down rock)
- **air**
- **water**
- **organic matter** (including living and dead plants and animals)

The type of soil depends of which worn down rock it comes from.

