






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.










ROCKET WORDS – learn these words and their definitions

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. san, pebbles or mud

Types of rock

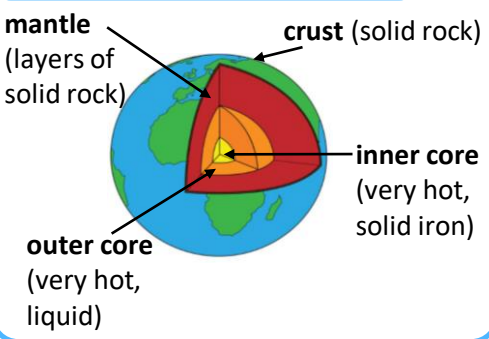
There are **three** main types of rock.

Their properties depend on how they were formed.

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

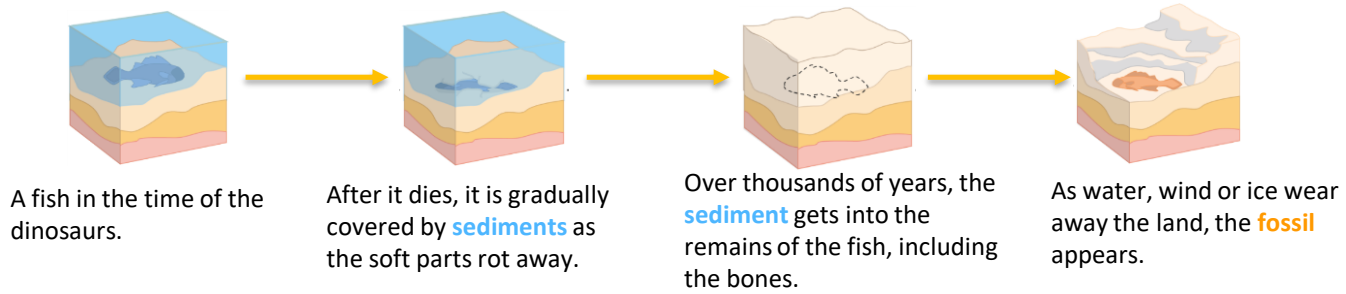
Words to describe rocks: hard, soft, **permeable**, **impermeable**, durable (resistant to **weathering**)

The main layers of the Earth



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.

