

Science Knowledge Organiser Rocks – Year 3

Key Vocabulary	Definition
Geology	The study of rocks
Impermeable	Rock that does not allow water to seep through.
Soil	Soil is made from small pieces of rock mixed with organic matter (decaying plants and animals).
Permeable	Rock that water can seep through.
Fossils	The preserved remains or traces of a dead organism.
Sediment	Tiny bits of rock, minerals, animal and plant matter that get washed into bodies of water.

Mary Anning was a palaeontologist who discovered many fossils in the rocks along the cliff edge in Dorset on the south coast of England. Mary taught herself about geology so she knew where to look for fossils.



How they are formed	Rocks
Metamorphic rocks are formed by great heat and pressure inside the Earth's crust. Metamorphic rocks are often made from other types of rock e.g. Marble, soapstone.	
Igneous rocks are formed by volcanoes. When a volcano erupts, it spews out hot molten rock called magma or lava. Eventually the magma will cool down and harden, e.g. Basalt and Granite	
Rock that is formed by years and years of sediment (tiny bits of rock, sand, minerals, animals or plant matter) compacting together and becoming hard. E.g., shale, limestone, and sandstone	