

Key Vocabulary

Spelling	Definition/Sentence
Igneous Rock	Rock that has been formed from magma or lava
Sedimentary Rock	Rock that has been formed by layers of sediment that have been pressed down hardtop stick together. You can see the layers of sediment in the rock.
Metamorphic Rock	Rock that started out as igneous or sedimentary rock but changed due to being exposed to extreme heat or pressure.
Sediment	Natural solid material that is moved or dropped off in a new place by water or wind e.g. sand
Permeable	Allows liquid to pass through it
Impermeable	Does not allow liquid to pass through it
Durable	Rocks that are more durable are more resistant to weathering (being eroded - broken down- by rain and wind)
Density	Density measures how bulky the rock is, not how heavy. Density can be checked by testing whether rocks float or not. High-density rocks sink whereas low-density rocks float.
Palaeontology	The study of fossils
Body Fossils	The remains of an animal or plant such as bones, shells or leaves
Trace Fossils	These are fossils that record the activity of an animal e.g. footprints, trackways
Erosion	When water, wind or ice wears away land

Key Knowledge

Rocks and Soils	
Rocks	There are three types of naturally occurring rocks with different appearances and properties - Igneous - Sedimentary - Metamorphic
Fossils	Fossils are the remains of once living things (animals, plants and other organisms) that once lived on earth and became preserved in rocks - Body Fossils - Trace Fossils
Soil	Soil is a mixture of tiny particles of rocks, organic matter from animals and plants, and air and water

Natural Rocks			Human-Made Rocks
Igneous	Sedimentary	Metamorphic	
Obsidian	Chalk	Marble	Brick
Granite	Sandstone	Quartzite	Concrete
Basalt	Limestone	Slate	Coade Stone

Soil

Soil is the uppermost layer of the Earth. It is a mixture of different things:

- minerals (the minerals in soil come from finely broken-down rock);
- air;
- water;
- organic matter (including living and dead plants and animals).

