



KEY
VOCABULARY

geology

the **study of rocks**

permeable

rock that **water can seep** through

impermeable

rock that **does not allow water to seep** through

fossils

the **preserved remains** or traces of a dead organism, the process by which a fossil is formed is called fossilisation

soil

soil is made from **small pieces of rock mixed with organic matter** (decaying plants and animals)

sediment

tiny **bits of rock, minerals, animal and plant matter** that get washed into bodies of water



sedimentary

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



igneous

rock formed by volcanoes as they erupt and spew out hot molten rock called magma or lava, eventually the magma will cool down and harden, e.g., basalt and granite



metamorphic

rock 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

how rocks are formed

an ammonite (prehistoric sea creature)



a fossilised plant



an insect trapped in amber



Mary Anning

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.

