

# ROCKS AND FOSSILS

## Vocabulary

**Sediment:** Materials that settle to the bottom of a liquid. **Igneous:** Rocks that are formed when lava cools creating a crystal structure. **Metamorphic:** Rocks formed when other rocks are affected by great temperature and pressure. **Sedimentary:** Rocks formed by layers of sediment collecting and solidifying. **Fossil:** The remains of prehistoric plants and animals embedded in rock. **Organic matter:** Something that has come from a recently living plant or creature. **Permeable:** A material with holes in which allow liquids or gases to pass through. **Minerals:** Substances that form naturally in the earth.

## Fossils

Fossils are the remains of traces of plants and animals the lived in the prehistoric era. A lot of fossils are found underwater and you can often see the outline of a skeleton.



## Soil

Soil is a mixture of tiny particles of rock, dead plants and animals, air and water.

Different soils have different properties depending on what they are made up of.



## Rocks

Rocks are made up of minerals. They can be hard like granite or soft like chalk. There are three types of rocks.

**Igneous Rocks:** These are formed when lava cools down. If this happens quickly outside of the earth they are called Extrusive Igneous Rocks. When magma leaks into the earth and cools down slowly they are call Intrusive Igneous Rocks



**Sedimentary Rocks:** These form in layers when little bits of rock or the shells or bones of dead creatures sink into the seabed.



**Metamorphic Rocks:** When igneous or sedimentary rocks are under pressure and are heated they change to form new metamorphic rocks.

