



# Year 3 Science Knowledge Organiser: Rocks



## Key vocabulary

<b>fossil</b>	a fossil is the remains or the impression left by a prehistoric plant or animal embedded in rock.
<b>rock</b>	a rock is a solid made up of a bunch of different minerals.
<b>minerals</b>	minerals come from broken down rock.
<b>erosion</b>	water, wind, and other natural forces cause rocks and earth to wear away.
<b>soil</b>	soil is the loose upper layer of the Earth's surface where plants grow. Soil consists of a mix of organic matter, air, water and minerals.
<b>organic matter</b>	living and dead plants and animals.
<b>hard rocks</b>	hard rocks need to be split by tools e.g. granite.
<b>soft rocks</b>	soft rocks can be moulded e.g. clay.
<b>permeable</b>	permeable rocks allow water to pass through.
<b>impermeable</b>	impermeable rocks do not let water pass through.
<b>durable</b>	rocks which are resistant to erosion so they last longer.
<b>density</b>	if the particles in the rock are tightly packed then it has a high density. These rocks would sink in water. Rocks with low density would float.
<b>erosion</b>	water, wind, and other natural forces cause rocks and earth to wear away.

## Focus scientists

**Mary Anning** (1799-1847) was a famous British fossil hunter who found the fossils of many prehistoric animals. Although not trained as a scientist her discoveries changed Science.



**Dr Anjana Khatwa** is a geologist who collects rocks and fossils and studies them to learn about the creatures that lived in the sea and on Earth over 150 million years ago



## Fossil formation



1. A fish dies and sinks to the bottom of a lake.



2. The fish rots and only the bones are left. The fish is covered with mud.



3. Millions of years pass and the mud turns to rock. Over time, the bone matter is completely changed into mineral matter. The fish is now a fossil.

## Key Knowledge

### ROCKS

**SEDIMENTARY:** Sedimentary rocks are formed by sediment that is deposited over time, usually as layers at the bottom of lakes and oceans. This sediment can include minerals, small pieces of plants and other organic matter. The sediment is compressed over a long period of time before consolidating into solid layers of rock.

**IGNEOUS:** Far underground, the temperature is so hot, rock melts into a liquid (molten rock). When the liquid is underground it is called 'magma' and it can cool to form an intrusive rock. When it spills out (volcano), the liquid is called 'lava' and it cools to form extrusive rock.

**METAMORPHIC:** Metamorphic rocks have been changed over time by extreme pressure and heat. Metamorphic rocks can be formed by pressure deep under the Earth's surface, from the extreme heat caused by magma or by the intense collisions and friction of tectonic plates.



**KEY PROPERTIES OF ROCKS:** Hard/Soft; Permeable/Impermeable; Durability; Density.

**Fossils- are the remains or the impression left by a prehistoric plant or animal embedded in rock.**

- 1.) An animal, creature or plant dies and ends up at the bottom of the sea.
- 2.) Over time, layers of rock form on top and the only thing which remains are the bones or the space where the bones used to be (mould fossils).
- 3.) Sometimes sediment enters the space where the bones used to be and takes the shape of the creature (cast fossil).

### What soil made from

**Air** - Oxygen, Carbon dioxide, nitrogen etc...

**Organic Matter** - Living and dead plants and animals.

**Water** - Air and water fill the gaps between particles of soil.

**Minerals** - Formed from broken down rock.