Science
Year 3 Science Knowledge Organiser: Spring 1, 2024

This half term our science unit of learning will be 'Rocks'.

A rock is a solid collection of mineral grains that grow or become cemented together. Some rocks are large while others are small. The three main types of rocks are igneous, sedimentary and metamorphic rocks.

Igneous Rock

Igneous rocks form when magma cools and becomes solid. This can happen slowly underground or rapidly above ground when lava escapes from a volcano.

Sedimentary Rock

When rocks are weathered and eroded, they break up into smaller pieces called sediment. Over time, these sediments are squashed together to form sedimentary rock.

Metamorphic Rock

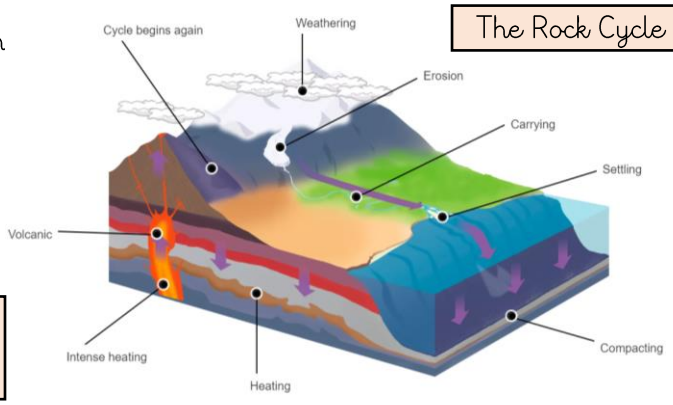
Metamorphic rocks are rocks that have been changed by heat or pressure. Originally, they were either igneous or metamorphic rocks.

Vocabulary:

Chalky
Crumbly
Crystals
Cycle
Decompose
Erode
Formations
Fossil
Fossilisation
Igneous
Metamorphic
Organism
Porous
Pressure
Replica
Sedimentary
Transformations
Translocations

The Rock Cycle is the long, slow journey of rocks down from Earth's surface and then back up again.
Rocks often change during this process.
During this cycle, rocks form deep in the Earth, move and sometimes change, go up to the surface and eventually return below the ground.

The Rock Cycle



Fossils are the preserved remains or traces of animals and plants. Fossils are usually found in rocks.

The Jurassic Coast runs from East Devon to Eat Dorset. It is called the Jurassic Coast because the cliffs contain fossils dating from the Jurassic period. Scientists who study fossils are called palaeontologists.