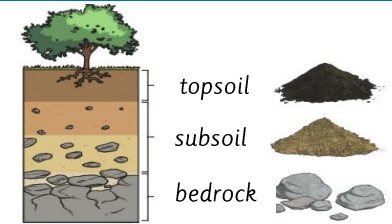


Year 3 Magpies Science Summer 1

Rocks

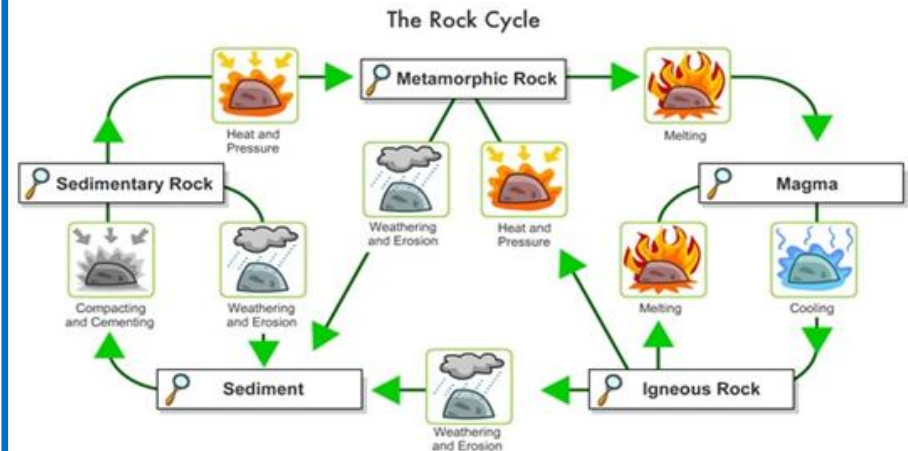
Soil

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).



Key Vocabulary	Definition
decay	After a living thing has died, it breaks down or 'decomposes'.
erosion	When water, wind or ice wears away land.
fossil	A fossil is the preserved remains, or impression, of a living thing that died a long time ago.
fossilisation	The process by which fossils are made.
geologist	A scientist who studies rocks.
igneous	A type of rock, made by fire.
impermeable	The opposite of permeable, water cannot pass through.
lava	Molten rock that comes out of the ground.
magma	Molten rock that remains underground.
metamorphic	A type of rock, made through change.
palaeontologist	Palaeontologist: a scientist who studies fossils.
permeable	Permeable means it allows liquids to pass through. This word comes from a Latin word 'permeare' - to pass through.
sediment	Tiny bits of rock, minerals, animal and plant matter that get washed into bodies of water.
sedimentary	A type of rock, made by settling down.
soil	A mixture of tiny pieces of rock, dead plants and animals, air and water. Different soils have different properties depending on their composition.

Diagram showing the rock cycle



Fossils

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



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, including an Ichthyosaur and Plesiosaur skeleton.



There are three main types of rocks

Igneous	Sedimentary	Metamorphic
Far underground the temperature is so hot, rock melts into a liquid (molten rock), called magma. This can cool to form igneous rock.	Formed under the surface of the earth from the change (metamorphosis) that occurs under the intense heat and pressure (squeezing).	Form under the sea. Rocks broken into small pieces by erosion settle as mud, sand, minerals and even remains of living things. Layers build up and the pressure turns this sediment into rock.
Obsidian, granite and basalt are types of igneous rock.	Chalk, sandstone and limestone are types of sedimentary rock.	Marble, quartzite and slate are types of metamorphic rock.
