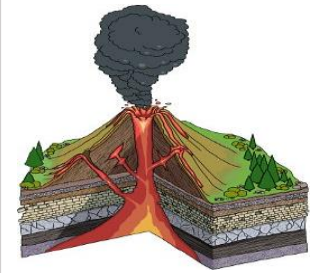


# Rocks

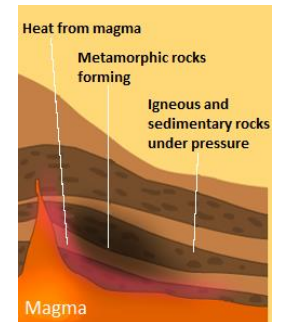
There are three main types of rock in the Earth's crust. These are sedimentary, igneous and metamorphic. Sedimentary rocks are made from layers of mud and sand, called sediment, that have settled in water and have been squashed over a long time to form rock. Igneous rocks are made from cooled magma or lava. Metamorphic rocks are formed when existing rocks are changed by heat and pressure.

Sedimentary rocks	Igneous rocks	Metamorphic rocks
 sandstone	 granite	 marble
 limestone	 obsidian	 slate

**Igneous Rock**  
Sometimes magma comes to the surface when a volcano erupts. As the magma cools it forms a rock. Sometimes magma cools to make rock just below the surface. Rock that forms from magma contains crystals.



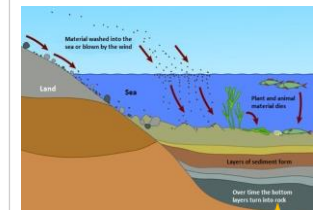
**Metamorphic Rock**  
is one more type of natural rock that is made by extreme heat and pressure inside the Earth.



**Fossils**  
Fossils are the remains, or traces, of once-living things preserved as rock. Fossils are only found in sedimentary rock and the conditions must be just right for them to develop.



**Sedimentary Rock**  
Is made when tiny bits of rock and soil, as well as the bodies of dead creatures, settle at the bottom of the sea to form a layer of sediment. Over millions of years, more and more layers of sediment settle on top and squash it down until it turns into rock.



**Uses of rocks** - The appearance and properties of rocks affect how they are used.

Chalk, a sedimentary rock, is soft and can be easily eroded. This makes chalk suitable for writing and drawing on blackboards.



Granite, an igneous rock, is very hard and impermeable. Granite is used for making kitchen work surfaces.



Marble is a metamorphic rock. It is easy to carve and is not easily eroded, making it suitable for sculptures.



## Vocabulary

igneous	Igneous rocks are formed from magma or lava. These can be extrusive or intrusive. Extrusive igneous rocks are formed above the Earth's surface, whereas intrusive igneous rocks are formed below the Earth's surface.
metamorphic	Metamorphic rocks are formed when igneous or sedimentary rocks are exposed to extreme heat and pressure.
sedimentary	Sedimentary rocks are formed when layers of sediment are pressed together over time. You can often see these layers of sediment in the rock.