

Key Vocabulary

fossil	The remains or impression of a plant or animal that has been embedded and preserved in rock
soil	The upper layer of earth in which plants grow. This is made up of organic matter and rocks
natural	Something that has been made by nature
man-made	Something that has been made by humans
permeable	Allows liquid or gas to pass through
durable	Difficult to damage

Key Facts

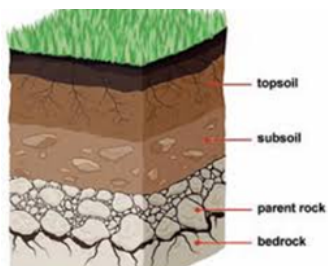
- A rock is made from different minerals. There are 3 main types of rock. Igneous, metamorphic and sedimentary. These are each formed in different ways.
- Rocks can be both natural and man-made. Concrete is a man-made rock where-as marble is a natural rock.
- A fossil is made by an animal or plant dying. The soft parts then decay, and the hard parts are covered and squashed by sand and other materials. The animal/plant matter then dissolves and is replaced by minerals. This is called fossilisation.
- Soil is made up of different layers: the topsoil, subsoil, parent rock and the bedrock.
- There are different types of fossils. Trace fossils are the record of animal's behaviour such as a footprint where-as body fossils are the remains of an animal or plant.

Key Questions

- What is a rock?
- How can we sort rocks?
- How can rocks change over time?
- What is soil made of?
- What is a fossil?
- How are fossils made?

Links to other Learning

- EYFS - ELG: The Natural World
Explore the natural world around them
- Year 1 - Everyday materials
Know the names of simple materials and their properties
- Year 2 - Uses of everyday materials
How a particular material is chosen to make an object because of the properties it has
- Year 6 - Evolution and inheritance
Recognise that fossils provide information about living things
- Geography - Rivers and Volcanoes
- History - Changes in Britain from the Stone Age to the Iron Age
- Art and Design - using a range of materials
e.g. clay



The 4 different layers of soil

A variety of common natural and man-made rocks

Natural Rocks			Human-Made Rocks
Igneous	Sedimentary	Metamorphic	
Obsidian	Chalk	Marble	Brick
Granite	Sandstone	Quartzite	Concrete
Basalt	Limestone	Slate	Cobble Stone

Famous Scientist

Mary Anning
1799-1847

A paleontologist from Lyme Regis, Mary Anning discovered the fossils of the ichthyosaur, plesiosaur and pterodactylus. Her discoveries were central to the new ideas about the history of the earth. Mary Anning was never recognized in her life due to her being a woman.

