



ROCKS



INTRODUCTION

Rocks are solid, natural materials that are found on Earth. They come in many shapes, sizes, and colours. Rocks are made up of different minerals, and they can be found in mountains, rivers, and even on the ground beneath our feet. In this text, we will learn about the different types of rocks and how they form.

WHAT ARE ROCKS

Rocks are made up of minerals, which are natural substances that are found in the Earth. Some rocks are smooth, while others are rough. Rocks can be small, like pebbles, or very large, like boulders. All rocks are formed through different processes, and they can change over time.

TYPES OF ROCKS

There are three main types of rocks:

- **Igneous Rocks:** These rocks are formed when molten rock (magma) cools down. Examples of igneous rocks are granite and basalt.
- **Sedimentary Rocks:** These rocks are formed when layers of sand, mud, and other materials build up and harden over time. Examples include limestone and sandstone.
- **Metamorphic Rocks:** These rocks are formed when other rocks are changed by heat and pressure deep inside the Earth. Examples are marble and slate.

HOW DO ROCKS CHANGE

Rocks can change over time. They can break down into smaller pieces and turn into other types of rocks. This process is called the **rock cycle**. For example, sedimentary rocks can change into metamorphic rocks, and igneous rocks can become sedimentary rocks after being broken down by weathering.

FIND OUT MORE...

[Year 3 Rocks - BBC Bitesize](#)

EXAMPLE QUESTIONS:

1. What are rocks made of?
2. What type of rock is formed when molten rock cools down?
3. How are sedimentary rocks formed?
4. What is the process called when rocks change over time?
5. What can happen to rocks over time?