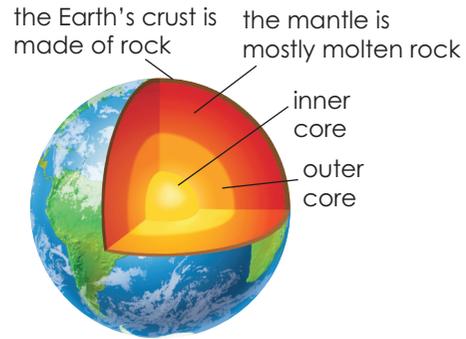


### The Earth



### Fossils

Fossils are the remains or trace of a plant or an animal from a long time ago.



Palaeontologists search for fossils to help us find out about organisms that lived in the past.

### Types of rock

All rocks are made of minerals. There are three types of rock which are formed in different ways:

#### Sedimentary

- Made of grains of sand, shell, mud, or rock.
- Most fossils are found in sedimentary rocks.



Chalk is used for writing as it is soft.

#### Igneous

- Made when molten rock cools down.



Granite is used for kitchen worktops as it is hard, and has an attractive appearance.

#### Metamorphic

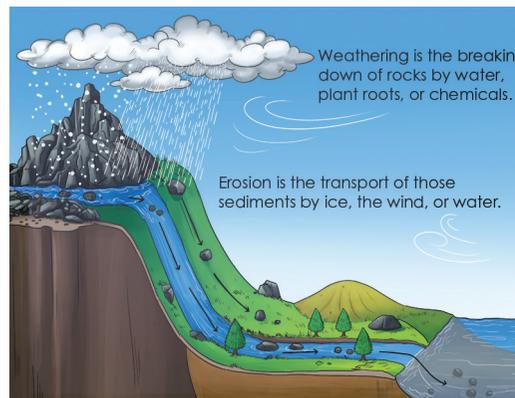
- Made when igneous or sedimentary rock is changed by heat and pressure.



Slate is used for roof tiles as it is durable (hard-wearing) and impermeable.

Different rocks have different properties. Their properties make them suitable for different uses

### Weathering and erosion



water - different types of soil absorb different amounts of water

air

What is soil made of?

decaying organisms (mostly plants)

small grains of rock (this determines the type of soil formed)

Word	Definition
absorb	The process of taking in or soaking up something, such as a liquid or gas.
crystal	A clear or transparent mineral.
durable	How strong something is.
erosion	Water, wind, and other types of weather wearing away something, such as rock.
fossil	The remains or trace of a living thing from a long time ago.
fossilisation	The process of a living thing becoming a fossil.
grain	A tiny, hard part of something—like sand.
igneous rock	Rock formed when lava or magma cools.
impermeable	Something that does not let water or air pass through it.
metamorphic rock	Sedimentary or igneous rock that has been changed by heat or pressure.
mineral	A natural solid formed in Earth.
molten	Something that has melted.
palaeontologist	Someone who studies fossils.
permeable	Something that lets water or air pass through it.
properties	What something is like, such as the hardness and permeability of a rock.
remains	What is left when a living thing dies.
rock	A solid material made from minerals and/or grains.
sediment	Grains that are carried by the wind or by water to the land or the seabed.
sedimentary rock	Rock formed when layers of sediment are pressed together.
soil	A mixture of ground up rock and the remains of dead plants and animals.
weathering	The breaking down of rocks and soils by water, plant roots, or chemicals.