



The Tithe Farm Way: Resilient pupils who have a life-long love of learning and are ready, respectful and safe in their choices.

Knowledge Organiser – Creating a Better World

Year 3 – Rocks

Tier 3 Vocabulary	
Rock	made up of grains that are packed together
Fossil	the remains or impressions of a prehistoric plant or animal embedded in rock
Erosion	When water and wind wear away rocks and soils
Soil	Soil is made from pieces of rock, minerals, decaying plants and water
Igneous	are very hard, dark and heavy. They are formed when molten magma from a volcano cools down. EXAMPLES: granite, basalt, obsidian.
Sedimentary	are formed by sediment (which includes minerals, small pieces of plants and other organic matter) that is deposited over time.
Metamorphic	are rocks which have been changed over time by pressure or heat. They are hard but can be damaged by acids. EXAMPLES: slate, marble

Where can you find rocks?

The best places to look for rocks to collect are road cuts, river banks, creek beds, beaches, and sites with freshly overturned soil.

What are rocks used for?

Rocks have been used throughout history for buildings, weapons, tool and in art.

What is a fossil?

When an animal or plant dies, it usually decays quickly or can be eaten. The remains rest here for thousands/millions of years with more mud and pressure on them. Minerals in the mud turn the remains to stone.



What are the properties of rock?

hard, soft, permeable, impermeable, durable
high density, low density.

	AIR - Oxygen, carbon dioxide, nitrogen etc.
	ORGANIC MATTER - Living and dead plants and animals.
	WATER - Air and water fill the gaps between particles of soil.
	MINERALS - From broken down rock.



How are soils formed?

Half of soil is air and water. In soil you can find sand, small stones, bits of leaves and roots. There are also millions of micro-organisms in the soil which help break down the matter and make the soil healthy and full of life.

Related previous knowledge: Everyday materials

Related future learning: Evolution and Inheritance