

## Year 3 Science - Rocks and soils



## Vocabulary.

**density** - whether parts of the rock are close together, making it heavy and hard.

buoyancy - whether an object floats.

permeable - liquids can soak through it.

impermeable - liquids can't soak through it.

durable - it doesn't wear out easily.

pressure - the force of something getting squashed.

fossil - the remains of a prehistoric animal or plant.

erosion - being worn away by wind or water.

**sediment** - tiny pieces of rock, mud or plants that sink to the bottom of water.

**sedimentary rock** - rock made by pressing smaller pieces of rock together.

**metamorphic rock** - rock made by extreme heat and pressure.

**igneous rock** - when lava or magma cools it forms igneous rock.

## **Essential learning.**

Granite and marble are hard rocks because they are durable. Chalk and pumice are soft rocks because they are not very durable. Chalk and sandstone are permeable rocks so water can soak through them. Impermeable rocks like slate and granite do not let water soak through them. Pumice is buoyant so it floats.

Fossils are formed when animals or plants are trapped within sediment that turns into rock around dead animal or plant. Over time the remains of the dead animal or plant dissolve and are replaced with stone, creating a fossil.

Soils are made from rocks and organic matter - parts of dead animals and plants. Different soils have different properties depending on their composition.

Sedimentary rocks are made from tiny pieces of rock that have been pressed together. Metamorphic rocks are made when rocks are put under extreme pressure and heated. Igneous rocks are made of magma or lava which has cooled.



