

Saplings - Autumn 2 - Must Knows - Rocks and Soils

Previously Learnt Vocabulary

hard soft smooth rough

New Vocabulary

Natural rocks		Rocks found in the earth from nature.
Fossil		Remains or traces of plants and animals that lived long ago
Fossilisation		The process of plants or animals being turned into stone
Permeable		Water flows through something very fast.
Impermeable		Very little water flows through after a long time
Organic matter		Plants, leaves and insects (dead or alive) found in soil.

Types of soil

sandy soil - a soil made up of lots of sand and some clay **chalky soil** - a soil that contains lots of chalk or limestone



clay soil - a soil containing lots of clay which becomes sticky when wet

peat soil - a soil that contains lots of water and organic matter



Identifying and grouping rocks

granite - a hard rock with easy to see crystals



pumice - a light rock with small holes



sandstone - a pale-coloured rock with grains



chalk - a soft white rock



marble - a white rock with crystals



gneiss - a hard rock with layers



crystals



crystals

grains



grains

layers



layers

texture - what something looks and feels like



Fossilisation

An animal dies. It gets covered with **sediments** which eventually become rock.

More layers of rock cover it. Only hard parts of the creature remain, e.g. bones, shells and teeth.

Over thousands of years, **sediment** might enter the mould to make a **cast fossil**. Bones may change to mineral but will stay the same shape.

Changes in sea level take place over a long period.

As **erosion** and weathering take place, eventually the fossil becomes exposed.



Influential individual

Mary Anning, 1799-1847

was a famous fossil hunter and collector. She found and identified many pre-historic fossils from the time of the dinosaurs

