

Key Vocabulary

Rock: A natural material found on or underneath the Earth's crust.

Texture: What something looks or feels like.

Weathering: The breaking down of rocks over time.

Fossil: The remains or trace of a living thing that lived a long time ago.

Fossilisation: The process through which a fossil is formed.

Soil: A mixture of small rocks, organic matter and water.

Organic matter: The remains of dead plants and animals.

Sticky Knowledge

- Rocks are natural materials.
- Granite, pumice, sandstone, chalk, marble and slate are all types of rock.
- Rocks can be groups in different ways based on their grains, crystals, layers and weight.
- Rocks have different textures and appearances.
- Fossils are usually formed from the shell or bones of living things.
- Fossilisation takes thousands of years and is a rare process that only occurs under certain conditions.
- When an animal dies, the soft parts of its body break down, leaving behind the hard parts such as the skeleton.
- Soils have different properties.
- Soils can act as a habitat for animals, provide nutrients for plants and prevent flooding.

soil – a mixture of small rocks, organic matter and water



sandy soil – a soil made up of lots of sand and some clay



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



chalky soil – a soil that contains lots of chalk or limestone



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



slate – a hard rock with layers

