Rock Identification

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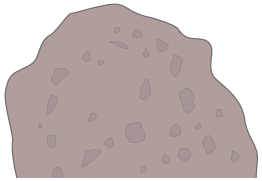
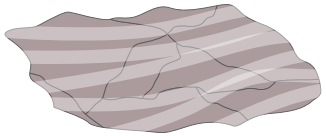


Igneous

Magma is molten rock beneath the surface of the earth. When magma cools and solidifies at or near the surface, it creates **igneous rock.**



Sedimentary

As bits of minerals settle into layers over thousands of years, the weight of water and the layers of sediment above press down and cement the minerals into **sedimentary rock.**

Metamorphic

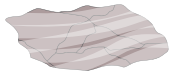
When sedimentary or igneous rocks are subjeted to extreme pressure and heat, their mineral structures transform, resulting in **metamorphic rock.**

ACTIVITY!

Draw a line between the type of rock and the rock examples below.

Obsidian

Obsidian is volcanic glass formed when lava extruded from a volcano cools rapidly with minimal crystal growth.



Mudstone

Mudstone is a conglomerate of clays or muds. Grains are too small to be distinguished without a micro-scope.

Basalt

Basalt is formed from the rapid cooling of lava exposed at or very near the surface of a terrestrial planet or a moon.

Schist

Schist is formed from mudstone or shale. Schist has medium to large, flat grains oriented in a parallel pattern.

Conglomerate

Conglomerate is a coarse-grained rock that is composed of gravel, pebbles, cobbles, and boulders.

Gneiss

Gneiss is formed from granite, or sedimentary rock that has been subjected to high heat and pressure, displaying distinct layers.

Granite

The word "granite" comes from the Latin granum, a grain, in reference to the coarse-grained structure of such a completely crystalline rock.

Slate

Slate is a fine-grained rock derived from an original shale-type rock composed of clay or volcanic ash.

Limestone

Limestone is a carbonate rock that is often composed of the skeletal fragments of marine organisms.