

Nova's Guide to the Rock Cycle

Join Nova the owl on a journey deep beneath your feet to discover the hidden stories of the Earth!

- **Igneous rocks are formed when hot, liquid magma from deep underground cools down and turns into solid rock.**
- **Sedimentary rocks are created over long periods of time as layers of sand and mud are squashed together at the bottom of oceans.**
- **Fossils are most commonly found trapped inside sedimentary rocks, preserving the shapes of ancient plants and animals.**
- **Metamorphic rocks are formed when existing rocks are changed by intense heat and extreme pressure deep within the Earth.**
- **Erosion happens when wind and rain slowly break down large rocks into tiny pieces called sediment.**

Did you know? Did you know? Some rocks are older than the dinosaurs! They are constantly changing through a slow, natural process called the Rock Cycle that takes millions of years to complete.

Key vocabulary: Igneous · Sedimentary · Metamorphic · Magma · Erosion · Fossil · Pressure