

Nova's Guide to the Marvellous World of Rocks

Dig deep into the earth and discover the secrets hidden beneath your feet!

- **Igneous rocks are formed when molten magma from deep within the Earth cools and solidifies, creating strong, interlocking crystals.**
- **Sedimentary rocks are created over long periods as layers of sediment, such as sand and pebbles, are compressed and cemented together at the bottom of oceans and lakes.**
- **Metamorphic rocks begin as either igneous or sedimentary rocks, but are transformed by immense heat and extreme pressure deep underground without melting.**
- **The hardness of a rock can be tested using the Mohs scale, which helps geologists classify minerals based on their ability to resist scratching.**
- **Fossils are almost exclusively found within sedimentary rocks, as the gentle layering process preserves the remains of ancient organisms without destroying them through heat.**

Did you know? Did you know? The Earth's crust is constantly recycling itself! Through a process called the Rock Cycle, rocks are forever changing from one type to another over millions of years. A mountain today might be the sand on a beach in the distant future!

Key vocabulary: Magma · Sediment · Permeable · Fossiliferous · Erosion · Crystallisation · Hardness