Grade 7 Science Unit 4: The Earth's Crust Classification of Rocks

Questions to Ponder...

- 1. How do the crystals or minerals form in a rock?
- 2. Why do some rocks have layers?
- 3. Why do some rocks have rounded particles while others have angular particles?

Rocks

Are combinations of two or more minerals. They can be grouped into three families depending on how they are formed.

1. Igneous Rocks

Result from the cooling of molten (melted) rock material.

The cooling creates crystals in the rocks.
Basalt and granite are the most common.

Molten Rock can form... Above the **Below** the ground



ground



Lava



2 types of Igneous Rock <u>Intrusive</u>

formed below the surface of the Earth.
Rocks cool very slowly.
They have large crystals.



Gabbro



Granite

<u>Extrusive</u>

Formed above the Earth's surface.
 Rocks cools quickly.

They have small crystals.



Basalt

Rhyolite



Obsidian



2. Sedimentary Rocks Form from the compaction and cementation (lithification) of sediments into visible layers called beds.

Sedimentary rocks are classified by grain size... Small particles (silt or

mud)

Shale



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Medium Particles (sand – can roll between your fingers)

Sandstone



Large Particles (gravel)

Conglomerate

Plant and animal particles



Limestone

3. Metamorphic Rocks

Result when pre-existing rocks (parent rocks) undergo changes due to heat, pressure and water. This is a long and slow process.

Parent Rocks...Sedimentary



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PARENT: Shale

Metamorphic



Slate

Sedimentary



Metamorphic



PARENT: Limestone

Marble

Sedimentary



Metamorphic



PARENT: Sandstone

Quartzite

Igneous



PARENT: Granite

Metamorphic



Gneiss