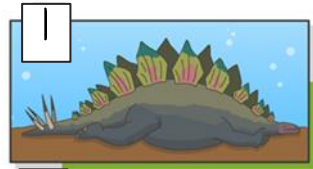


# Year 3 – Rocks and Soils

## Key Knowledge

- To sort rocks scientists look at how hard or soft they are, how durable they are, the density of a rock and how permeable they are.
- Weathering describes the breaking down or dissolving of rocks and minerals on the surface of the Earth.
- Fossils are very rare as most bones dissolve quickly before the fossil can form.



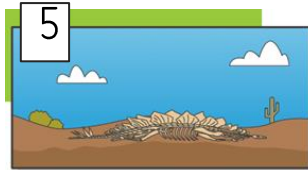
1 The living thing dies and sinks to the bottom of the sea/lake/river.



4 The bones get dissolved by water in the rock and are replaced by minerals in the water, leaving a rock replica.



2 The soft parts decompose leaving hard parts, like skeletons and shells.



5 The fossils are unearthed during digs or by erosion.



3 They get buried by small particles of rock called sediment.



## Rock & Soil Types



There are different types of soils. Soils can be different because it depends on:

- the type of rock they were made from;
- the plants, animals or other organisms that live in or near them.



## Key Vocabulary (alphabetised)

Fossil	• the remains or impression of a prehistoric plant or animal formed in rock.
Igneous Rock	• A type of rock formed through the cooling and solidification of magma or lava.
Metamorphic Rock	• a type of rock which has been changed by extreme heat and pressure.
Mineral	• A solid substance naturally formed underground i.e. coal.
Palaeontologist	• Someone who studies fossils
Sedimentary Rock	• A type of rock formed by layers of small pieces of rock and sediments building up over time.
Soil	• Is made up of many different things and supports life on Earth

## Significant Individual - Mary Anning



- Became known around the world for the discoveries she made in Jurassic marine fossil beds in the cliffs along the English Channel.
- She found the first nearly complete plesiosaur skeletons