

Name: _____

Summarizing

Directions: Summarize the following text by underlining key words and phrases. Break down the larger ideas and answer the main questions who, what, where, when, and how.

Rocks of the Earth

The oldest things on the planet are rocks. They cover the whole earth and are found in cities, the country, in the oceans and lakes, and under the soil.

Most of the earth's crust, which is the surface of the earth, is composed of igneous rock. Igneous rock is made from melted rock called magma which is found inside the earth. When magma pushes through cracks in the crust it is referred to as lava. The lava cools and hardens and becomes igneous rock. Examples of igneous rocks are granite and obsidian.

Another type of rock is called sedimentary. Sedimentary rock is composed of layers of sand, mud, and pebbles. These layers of sediment build up over many years at bottoms of lakes and seas, then pressed together. Over time, the layers hardened and become stone. Examples of sedimentary rock are limestone, made of shells, sandstone, where small grains of sand are visible.

A third type of rock is metamorphic rock. Metamorphic rocks began their lives as other rocks. Then, over years and years, being buried deep in the ground, time, heat, and pressure changed them into metamorphic rocks. Examples of metamorphic rock are marble and quartzite.

Rocks live forever. They are the oldest objects on the planet, and forever change to become new rocks over time.
