

Name _____

Keep it Rockin'

Learn about the three main types of rocks.

Read the information and use it to answer the questions below.

Igneous Rocks – All rocks began as igneous rocks. These rocks form as liquid magma cools. The speed at which the magma cools affects the size of the crystals in the rock. For example, a rock that cools deep in the Earth's crust could take a thousand years to cool and have large crystal formation, and a rock that cools quickly on the surface will have very small crystals.

Sedimentary Rocks - Over millions of years, igneous rocks are worn down by water and wind. These small particles often end up in rivers, lakes, and oceans. These sediments layer on top of each other and get very heavy. This causes minerals in the sediments to act like cement and form sedimentary rock.

Metamorphic Rocks – These rocks form deep within the Earth, when heat and pressure are applied to igneous or sedimentary rocks. The heat and pressure partially melt the rocks and they chemically change into completely different rocks.

1. What kind of rock would most likely be formed if an igneous rock was deep underground for many years?

2. What kind of rock would have varied layers of color and be found where there was once a river?

3. Explain how metamorphic rocks are formed.

4. How are igneous rocks different from sedimentary and metamorphic rocks?

5. Describe how an igneous rock might change into another type of rock.

