Year 3 - Rocks

What should I already know?

- Some everyday objects are made from rocks. EG bricks and roof tiles,
- The properties of rocks: EG hard, soft, rough, smooth, shiny, dull.
- Many plants need soil to grow.

Key Knowledge - rocks

- The ground is made up of natural materials such as rocks, stones and soil. There are lots of different types of rocks because they are formed in different ways.
- Some rocks are **harder and some rocks** are **softer.** Very soft rock wears away easily.
- Permeable rocks let water soak through them. EG Chalk, Limestone.
- Impermeable rocks do not. EG slate.



Poppins

- Some sedimentary rocks contain fossils.
- When a plant or animal dies it sinks to the bottom of the sea and gets covered by multiple layers of sediment. Only the bones or their impression remains.
- Over many thousands of years, these sediments and remains turn to rock. The animal or plant remains have now become a fossil.





Key Vocabulary

Rocks	Made up of one or more minerals which have been packed tightly together.
Mineral	Solid chemical substances that occur naturally. EG diamond.
Crystals	Made of minerals and come in many different shapes, sizes and colours.
Grain	Tiny fragments of rock particles.
Soil	Made from a mixture of rock particles, organic matter, air and water.
Organic matter	The decayed remains of plants, animals & other dead organisms.
Sediment	Small pieces of soil, sand, gravel and small rocks.
Fossil	The preserved remains or impression of prehistoric animal or plant embedded in rock.

Key Knowledge - soil

- Soil is made up tiny pieces of rock, organic matter, water and air.
- Different types of soil provide different growing conditions for plants.
- Clay soil: sticky when wet. Often blue in colour. Very few air gaps so water does not drain through it quickly.
- Sandy soil: Light and dry. Lots of air gaps so water drains through quickly.

