Sandy Soil

* Pale coloured
* Large Particles
* Small air gaps
* Dry as water drains through it easily

Loam

* Good mixture of sand, silt and clay
* Holds onto nutrients and drains well
* Good for growing all year round

Clay Soil

* Sticky and muddy
* Small particles
* Very few air gaps
* Water does not drain through it easily.

Peat

* No rock particles
* Made from old decayed plants
* Dark and crumbly
* Rich in nutrients
1. An animal dies. The soft parts of an organisms’ body decompose, leaving the hard parts, like the skeleton, behind.

**How are fossils formed?**

5. Minerals in the water replace the bone, leaving a rock replica of the original bone called a fossil.

1. As more layers of sediment build up on top, the sediment around the skeleton begins to compact and turn to rock.

2. These hard parts become buried by small particles of rock called sediment.

1. The bones then start to be dissolved by water seeping through the rock. They leave a space like an empty mould.

**Rocks, Fossils and Soils – Science Year 3 Summer 2**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Term** | **Definition** | **Types** |
| Rock | A hard, solid material that is made of minerals and is found in nature | Sedimentary, igneous and metamorphic |
| Soil | The top layer of the ground, in which plants grow; dirt | Sandy, clay, chalky and peat |
| Metamorphic rock | Rock formed when any type of rock goes through changes caused by extreme heat and pressure | Marble and slate. |
| Igneous rock | Rock formed by the cooling and hardening of hot magma or lava | Granite and Andesite |
| Sedimentary rock | Rock formed when sediment is pressed together over time (originally under wat | Limestone, shale, chalk and sandstone |
| Fossil | The remains of a plant or animal that turned to stone over a long period of time | Body fossils and trace fossils |

Other Key Vocabulary: Magma Pressure Compaction Organism Decompose Particles Dissolve Humus Replica

**Soil Ingredients:** Rocks, sand, clay, humus (dead plants and animals), microorganisms, worms and insects, air and water.

**Types of soil:**