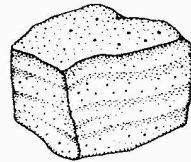


ROCKS, ROCKS, ROCKS

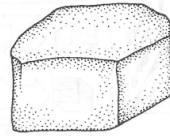
SEDIMENTARY ROCKS



8

SANDSTONE

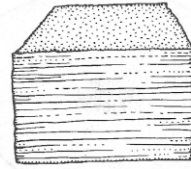
When you touch sandstone, it feels gritty. It should, because this sedimentary rock forms from grains of sand cemented together by hardened minerals. Orange sandstone is used for building.



10

LIMESTONE

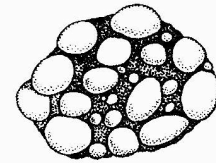
The lime in limestone isn't a fruit but the mineral calcite. Sea creatures take calcite from seawater and use it to make their shells. After the creatures die, their shells sink and may become cemented into gray limestone.



6

SHALE

Shale is a sedimentary rock made up of layers of silt and clay. The green-gray layers can be split apart easily. Shale is used to make bricks.



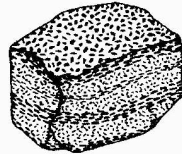
9

CONGLOMERATE

kun-GLAH-muh-rate

Find conglomerate rock and you will see different-colored, rounded pebbles cemented together. Conglomerate is a sedimentary rock sometimes used to make concrete.

METAMORPHIC ROCKS

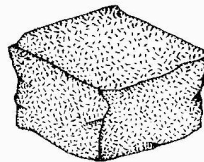


14

GRANITE GNEISS

GRA-nit NICE

Under high heat and pressure, granite gneiss forms from granite. Usually this metamorphic rock has bands of minerals and is speckled black and white. Sometimes the bands twist or curve, showing where the rock almost melted.

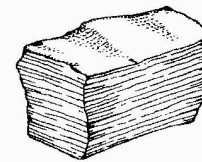


13

QUARTZITE

KWORT-site

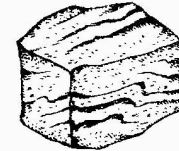
Sandstone under a lot of pressure deep inside Earth can end up changing to quartzite. It's a grayish tan color. Most quartzite is more than 500 million years old.



11

SLATE

High pressure can change shale into slate. Slate is very hard and splits into flat sheets. That's why it is often used for chalkboards, roof tiles, and patio stones. Slate is usually dark blue-gray.



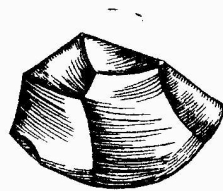
12

MARBLE

MAR-bul

Intense heat from magma inside Earth's crust, or intense pressure, can change limestone into marble. Pure marble is white, but minerals in marble can color it pink, green, yellow, or black. Marble is used in building.

IGNEOUS ROCKS

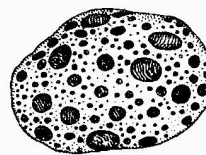


1

OBSIDIAN

ob-SI-dee-un

When lava cools very quickly, it can harden into glassy, black obsidian. Native Americans made arrowheads out of this rock. It breaks easily into pieces with sharp edges.



4

PUMICE

PUH-miss

When pumice forms from lava, gas bubbles are trapped inside. When the bubbles burst, the rock is left looking "spongy." Pumice can be so light that it floats on water. It's an orange color.



2

GRANITE

GRA-nit

Tough, hard granite rock is used in buildings and monuments. It is made of mineral crystals: white quartz, pink feldspar, and black mica. Granite hardens inside Earth's crust from magma. If it hardens quickly, it has small crystals. If it hardens slowly, the crystals are larger.



3

BASALT

buh-SALT

As lava cools, it most often hardens into dark basalt. This common rock covers thousands of square miles of Earth's surface. In some places it is thousands of feet thick. The land in the country of Iceland is mostly made of basalt. This rock is dark reddish-brown.