

# TYPES OF ROCK

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*ROCKS ARE AGGREGATES OF MINERALS WHICH HAVE COME TOGETHER IN WIDELY DIFFERENT CIRCUMSTANCES. BASED UPON THE HISTORY OF THEIR FORMATION THEY MAY BE DIVIDED INTO THREE DISTINCTLY DIFFERENT GROUPS.*

## 1. IGNEOUS ROCKS

*THE IGNEOUS ROCKS CONSTITUTE THE FIRST PORTIONS OF THE EARTH'S SURFACE, FORMED FROM WHAT WAS, AND STILL IS, A MOLTEN MASS OF MATERIAL. WHEN EXPOSED TO EROSION AND WEATHERING THEY PROVIDE MOST OF THE COMPONENTS OF THE OTHER TWO GROUPS.*

## 2. SEDIMENTARY ROCKS

*THE SEDIMENTARY ROCKS ARE COMPRISED FROM MATERIALS WHICH ARE THE RESULT OF THE BREAKDOWN OF OTHER ROCKS INTO SMALLER PARTICLES THROUGH EROSION AND WEATHERING, AND ALSO FROM THE BREAKDOWN OF ORGANIC MATERIALS. THE SEDIMENT WHICH ACCUMULATES IS THEN COMPRESSED OVER A LONG PERIOD UNTIL IT HARDENS INTO ROCK.*

## 3. METAMORPHIC ROCKS

*METAMORPHIC ROCKS OCCUR AS THE RESULT OF CHANGES IN ROCKS OF ANY TYPE, WHICH HAVE BEEN ALTERED FROM THEIR ORIGINAL STATE BY THE ACTION OF HEAT, PRESSURE, OR CHEMICAL ACTION, OR BY THE COMBINATION OF ANY OR ALL OF THESE.*

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