

ROCKS

Rocks are made up of individual substances, called minerals, found mostly in solid state. Rocks are classified into three major types

- **Igneous rocks** are formed by the solidification of the molten magma, e.g Mica, Granite etc.
- **Sedimentary rocks** are formed due to accumulation of rock particles and organic matter in layers, under tremendous pressure, e.g Gravel, Peat, Gypsum etc.
- **Metamorphic rocks** were originally igneous or sedimentary but later changed due to pressure, heat or action of water, e.g., Gneiss, Marble, Quartzite etc.

Type of Rock	Original Rock	Metamorphic Rock
Igneous	Granite	Gneiss
Igneous	Basalt	Green-stone
Sedimentary	Limestone	Marble
Sedimentary	Coal	Graphite, Coal
Sedimentary	Sandstone	Quartzite
Sedimentary	Shale/Clay	Slate, Mica, Schist

Weathering

The process by which rocks are chemically or physically disintegrated into fragments.

EARTHQUAKES

- Any sudden disturbance below the Earth's surface may produce **vibrations** or shaking in Earth's crust and some of these vibrations, when they reach the surface, are known as earthquakes.
- The magnitude of an earthquake is measured by the **Richter Scale**.
- The intensity of earthquake waves is recorded by **Seismograph**.
- Intensity of shaking is measured on the modified **Mercalli Scale**.

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- **Focus** is the point beneath the Earth where earthquakes originate.
- **Epicentre** is the point just above the focus on the Earth's surface.

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VOLCANISM

- Sudden eruption of hot magma (molten rock), gases, ash and other material from inside the Earth to its surface.

Types of Volcanoes

- **Active** Which erupts frequently, e.g., Mauna Loa (Hawaii), Etna (Sicily), Vesuvius (Italy), Stromboli (Mediterranean Sea).
- **Dormant** Not erupted for quite some time, e.g., Fujiyama (Japan), Krakatoa (Indonesia), Barren Island (India).
- **Extinct** Not erupted for several centuries. e.g Arthur's Seat, Edinburgh, Scotland.
- **Ring of Fire** Hundreds of active volcanoes found on the land near the edges of the Pacific Ocean.

Tsunami

Large ocean waves that are caused by sudden motion on the ocean floor. Motion could be an earthquake, volcanic eruption or underwater landslide.