

## The Rock Cycle Explained

### **Igneous Rocks**

Igneous rocks are formed when melted rock (magma) deep inside the crust is cooled and hardened. The word "igneous means formed by fire.

Examples of Igneous Rocks are: Granite, Basalt, Obsidian, Pumice



Granite



Basalt



Obsidian



Pumice

### **Metamorphic Rocks**

Magma, inside Earth, presses against layers of rock above it. The layers above press down. Sometimes this pressure and heat change rock to a different kind called **metamorphic, which means "changed in form."**

Examples of Metamorphic Rocks are: Gneiss, Mica Schist, Marble, slate



Gneiss



Mica Schist



Marble



Slate

### **Sedimentary Rocks**

A river slows down as it gets closer to the sea. When this happens, the material carried by the river is dropped. As years pass, this material builds up. Top layers press down on bottom layers and often turn them into rock called **sedimentary rock.** Fossils and other remains of living thing are often found in such rock.

Examples of Sedimentary Rocks are: Conglomerate, Breccia, Limestone, Shale



Conglomerate



Breccia



Limestone



Shale