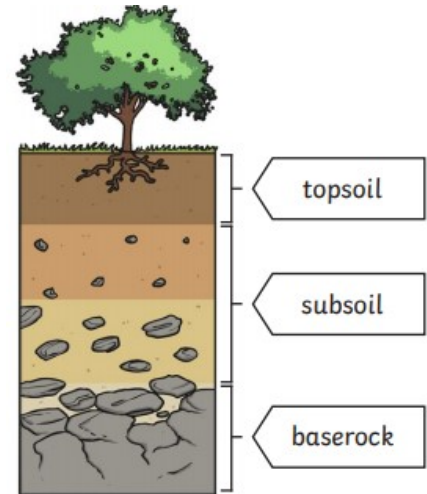





Year 3—rocks and soil

New Vocabulary	
Fossil	The remains of an animal pressed into rock.
Magma	Molten rock that remains underground.
Sediment	Natural matter that is moved by water of wind.

Rocks
<p>Types of rock:</p> <p>Metamorphic—Rock that has changed due to extreme pressure or heat.</p> <p>Igneous—formed from cool magma or lava.</p> <p>Sedimentary—Formed from layers of sediment pressed together over millions of years.</p> <p>Properties of rocks:</p> <p>Permeable—allows water to pass through.</p> <p>Impermeable—does not allow water to pass through.</p> <p>Durable—able to withstand pressure, wear and weather.</p> <p>We can group rocks according to their type or properties.</p>

What is soil?
<p>Soil is the top layer of the Earth. It is important because it helps to support both animal and plant life.</p> <p>It is made from a mixture of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rocks • Organic matter (dead plants and animals) • Air • Water <p>There are different types of soil, such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clay soil—sticky soil with not much air. • Sandy soil—drains easily and has a lot of air in it. <p>There are different layers of soil—take a look at the picture opposite:</p>



How are fossils formed?			
<p>An animal dies and is buried by mud, sand and volcanic ash. These layers become so compact over time that they turn to rock.</p> 	<p>The soft parts of the animal rot away and the bones are left behind. Over time, water seeps into the rock and the bones dissolve.</p> 	<p>Minerals take the place shape of the bones and the fossil is formed.</p> 	<p>Over time the rock rises and is worn away by wind or water and the fossil is exposed. People come along and find these fossils.</p> 