

Choose one/other/both of the two texts below to practise your reading fluency. Time yourself for one minute and see how many words you can read accurately. Yr 3 should be aiming for 95 words per minute and Yr 4, 120 words per minute. Then, answer the questions.

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Rock Types

10 There are three main types of rock and they have
18 varying properties used to identify and sort them.
25 They are all used for different purposes.

26 **Sedimentary** 

34 Sedimentary is considered the most common on the
45 earth's surface. It is made up of small pieces of rock
54 and the remains of animals and plants. In time,
64 these form layers that are compacted down to form
65 rock.

66 **Igneous** 

75 Igneous rock is formed from magma or lava. When
84 cooled, it can rise through the earth's surface. This
93 can harden and become solid which forms the rock.

94 **Metamorphic** 

103 Metamorphic rock is a rock that has changed type
110 due to certain conditions. Pressure and temperature
119 can cause these changes. An example would be marble
123 which was originally limestone.

Questions

1. Find and copy a word which tells you that sedimentary rocks are formed by being squashed.

2. Why do you think that someone might need to be able to identify types of rocks?

3. Number these facts from 1-4 to show the order that they appear in the text.
 - ☐ Igneous rock is formed from magma or lava.
 - ☐ Pressure and temperature can cause these changes.
 - ☐ They are all used for different purposes.
 - ☐ In time, these form layers that are compacted down to form rock.

4. Why might someone choose to read this text?



Fossils



4 What is a fossil?

15 A fossil is the imprint of the remains of an organism
23 that has been preserved in the earth's crust.

28 How is a fossil made?

37 Fossilisation is a process that has many stages and
48 takes place over a vast amount of time. This can only
58 happen under certain conditions so it is a rare event.

66 When buried, an organism will decompose and the
75 skeleton will be left behind. Layers of sediment will
83 form on top that eventually turn into sedimentary
87 rock around the skeleton.

97 Water will then seep through to the bone, which will
107 cause it to dissolve. Minerals are left behind from the
117 water in its place. Eventually, the fossil will rise to
122 the surface to be discovered.

Questions

1. Find and copy one word which means the same as 'a living thing'.

2. Which word gives you the impression that a fossil being made is an unlikely event?

3. Summarise in **two** sentences what this text is about.

4. What might have been the author's purpose when they wrote this text?

