

THE ROCK CYCLE

Rock Cycle

The rock cycle is a series of processes that create and transform the types of rocks in Earth's crust.

Magma

Magma of molten semi-molten found on the surface of the Earth.

Lava

Lava is the molten material that flows from a volcano.

Igneous rocks

The rocks formed when hot and molten rocks crystallize and solidify are called igneous rocks.

Sedimentary rocks

Sedimentary rocks are formed from the remains of plants and animals that have been buried and compressed over time.

Sediment

The solid material that has been transferred and deposited in a new location is referred to as sediment.

Crystallization

Crystallization in the rock cycle refers to the formation of rock crystals in cooling magma.

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Fossils preserved in the Earth's crust.

Fossils remain or are preserved in the Earth's crust.

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Weathering

Weathering describes the breaking down or dissolving of rocks and minerals on the surface of the Earth.

Erosion

Erosion is the geological process in which rocks and soil are worn away and transported by natural forces such as wind, water, or ice.

Deposition

Deposition is the laying down of sediment from a suspension that has been transported, for example, by water or wind, to a new location.

Compaction

Compaction happens when sediments are deeply buried, placing them under pressure because of the weight of overlying layers.

Metamorphic rocks

A rock that gradually changes into a new type of rock due to pressure and heat are called metamorphic rocks.

Cementation

Cementation is the process by which loose sediment grains are bound together by mineral matter in the pore spaces.

Diagenesis

Diagenesis is the process of change that occurs within the sedimentary basin during the burial of the initial parent material. It is the process by which loose sediment is transformed into sedimentary rock.

Melting

Melting occurs when the rock melts and becomes magma due to too much heat or pressure.

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