

8Ha – Explaining the Earth/Sedimentary rocks

Word	Pronunciation	Meaning
basalt	<i>ba-salt</i>	An igneous rock with very tiny crystals.
biological weathering		When rocks are broken down due to the activities of living things. For example, growing plant roots can split rocks apart.
cementation	<i>sem-men-tay-shun</i>	A process in which water flows through the spaces between pieces of rock leaving mineral salts behind which stick (cement) the rock pieces together.
cements	<i>sem-men-ts</i>	sticks
chalk		A soft white or grey sedimentary rock formed from the remains of microscopic organisms, and so mainly made out of calcium carbonate.
chemical weathering		When rocks are broken up or dissolved by chemical reactions, usually with rainwater.
classify		To sort things into groups.
climate		The average weather conditions in an area, or for the whole Earth.
compaction	<i>com-pack-shun</i>	When layers of sediment or rock are squashed by the weight of sediment above them.
crystal	<i>Kris-tal</i>	Piece of mineral with sharp edges.
deposit		When moving air, water or ice drops rock fragments or grains it has been carrying.
earthquake		When the earth shakes.
erosion	<i>er-O-shun</i>	The movement of loose and weathered rock.
fossil		Any signs of past life, such as the remains of a dead animal or plant, preserved in rock.
geologist		A scientist who studies rocks and the Earth.
gneiss	<i>wice</i>	A metamorphic rock formed when schist is heated and squashed more. It usually has bands of different coloured minerals.
grain		Tiny piece of rock, usually made of one mineral.
igneous rock	<i>igg-nee-us</i>	Rock made from interlocking crystals that are not in layers.
limestone		A sedimentary rock made from the remains of dead sea creatures.
metamorphic rock	<i>met-a-mor-fik</i>	Rock made from interlocking crystals that are usually lined up or in layers.
minerals		The chemical compounds found in rocks.
physical weathering		When rocks are broken up by physical processes such as changes in temperature.
sediment		Rock grains and fragments dropped on the bottom of a river, lake or sea.
sedimentary rock		Rock formed from layers of sediment. It is often porous and made of rounded grains.
texture		The scientific word used to describe the shapes and sizes of the crystals or grains in a rock.

8Ha – Explaining the Earth/Sedimentary rocks (continued)

Word	Pronunciation	Meaning
transport		The movement of rock grains and fragments by wind, water or ice.
volcano		A mountain that shoots out molten rock.
weathering		When rocks are broken up by physical, chemical or biological processes.

8Hb – Hot rocks

Word	Pronunciation	Meaning
basalt	<i>ba-salt</i>	An igneous rock with tiny crystals.
bonds		Forces holding particles in a solid together.
crust		The solid rocks at the surface of the Earth.
crystal	<i>kris-tal</i>	A mineral with sharp edges.
granite	<i>gran-it</i>	An igneous rock with large crystals.
igneous rock	<i>igg-nee-us</i>	A rock formed when magma or lava cooled down and solidified.
lava	<i>lar-va</i>	Molten rock that runs out of volcanoes.
magma		Molten rock beneath the surface of the Earth.
mantle	<i>man-tel</i>	The part of the Earth below the crust.
particles		The tiny pieces (atoms or molecules) that everything is made out of.

8Hc – All change!

Word	Pronunciation	Meaning
gneiss	<i>nice</i>	A metamorphic rock formed when schist is heated and squashed more. It usually has bands of different coloured minerals.
marble		A metamorphic rock formed from limestone.
metamorphic rock	<i>met-a-mor-fik</i>	Rocks that have been formed from igneous or sedimentary rocks by heat and pressure.
mudstone		A sedimentary rock made of tiny particles.
quartz	<i>kwartz</i>	The mineral that forms the grains in sandstone.
quartzite	<i>kwartz-ite</i>	A metamorphic rock formed from sandstone.
schist	<i>shist</i>	A metamorphic rock formed when slate is heated and squashed more.
slate		A metamorphic rock with tiny crystals that are lined up. It is formed from mudstone, and can be split into layers.

8Hd – Theories about the Earth

Word	Pronunciation	Meaning
catastrophism	<i>kat-a-strof-sim</i>	The theory that all the rocks were formed by sudden events such as volcanic eruptions.
creationism	<i>kree-ay-shun-ism</i>	The idea that the world was created by a divine being.
theory		A scientific idea that can be tested.
uniformitarianism	<i>yoo-nee-form-it-air-ee-an-ism</i>	The idea that rocks were formed over many millions of years by the same processes that we see happening today.

8Hd – Focus on: Plate tectonics

Word	Pronunciation	Meaning
constructive plate margin		Where two plates are moving apart and new rock is being formed between them.
continental crust		The crust that forms the continents. It is less dense than oceanic crust.
continental drift		The theory that pieces of the Earth's crust moved through the rocks beneath the ocean.
convection current		A current created by heat causing changes in density.
destructive plate margin		Where two plates meet and one is being pushed down under the other.
oceanic crust		The crust that forms the ocean floors. It is mostly basalt, and is denser than continental crust.
plates		Pieces of the surface of the Earth, which can move around very slowly.
plate tectonics		The modern theory that the Earth's surface is split into separate plates that are moved around.

8He – The Rock Cycle/Living in danger

Word	Pronunciation	Meaning
plates		Pieces of the surface of the Earth, which are moved around very slowly.
rock cycle		All the processes that form sedimentary, igneous and metamorphic rocks linked together.