

Set 4. Earth Sciences (Rocks and Minerals): *Rock Cycle*

Metamorphic rocks have some of the properties of the rocks they used to be. Marble is a metamorphic rock that looks something like limestone. Slate looks something like shale (a sedimentary rock). Gneiss (say “nice”) has some of the same kinds of minerals in it that granite has. Remember granite is an igneous rock.

Summary: Metamorphic Rocks

Form very slowly.

Formed from other rocks because of pressure and heat.

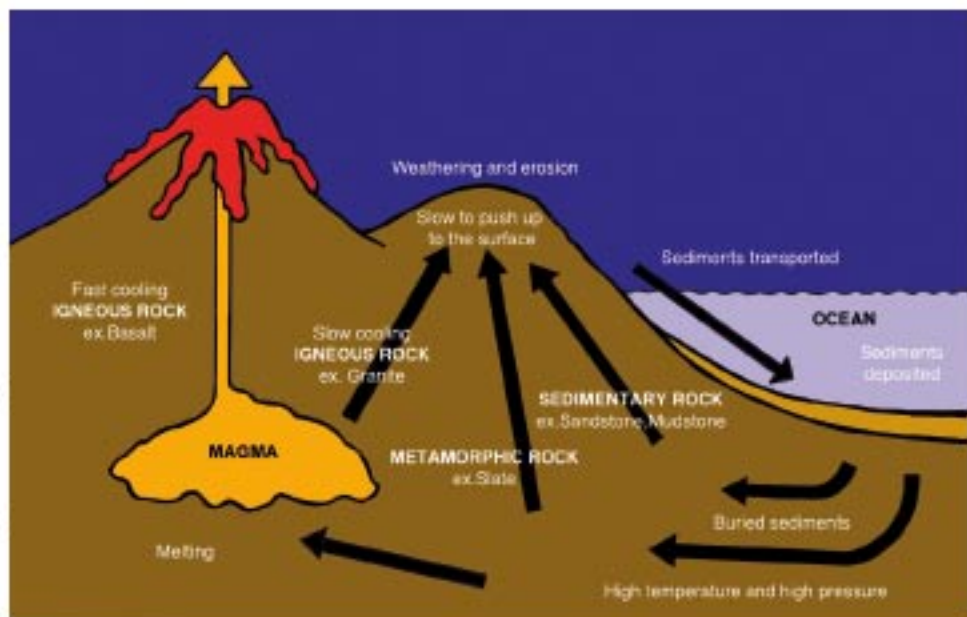
Very hard (because of all the pressure).

Examples are: marble (formed from limestone) and gneiss (formed from granite).



Rock Cycle

You have been learning about many different cycles in nature. Rocks go through a cycle too. They rise to Earth’s surface, get broken apart, get squashed together, get heated, and start all over again. Sometimes different things happen on Earth, like earthquakes or volcanoes. These things might change the cycle. Here is a simple diagram of what happens.



“Don’t forget, this rock cycle looks quick but it usually takes thousands or millions of years to happen.”