Intro to Rocks Guide

A **rock** is a mixture of **minerals**. (example: granite is made of 3-4 minerals)

***Geologists*** (scientists who study rocks) classify rocks according to three things:

1. **MINERAL TEXTURE:**
	1. **Size of grains**
2. Coarse-grained (can be seen without a microscope)
3. Fine-grained (microscopic)
4. No grains—glassy because no crystals formed
	1. **Shape of grains**—smooth or jagged
	2. **Pattern of grains—**wavy; flat



2. **MINERAL COMPOSITION (what the rock is made of)**



**3. ORIGIN of rock (where did the rock FORM?):**

1. Igneous Rock:

>How do they form?

Melted/molten rock (lava or magma) cools and hardens



>examples:

 *Basalt, granite, obsidian*

1. Sedimentary Rock: (most of the rocks on Earth are sedimentary)

>How do they form?

 pressure (usually underwater)

>List 3 examples of sediment:

Pieces of rock, sand, mud, bones, shells

>examples of sedimentary rock:

 Shale, limestone, sandstone

 (Some sedimentary rock have fossils from extinct animals/plants---paleontology)

1. Metamorphic:

>How do they form?

extreme heat and pressure (usually very deep underground)

>examples: marble, gneiss