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| *Highgate Community Primary School Year 3* ***Science: Rocks and soils*** |
| ***Vocabulary*** | ***Key Facts*** |
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| **fossil**​ | A fossil is the preserved remains or traces of a dead organism.​ |
| **soil**​ | Soil consists of a mix of organic material (decayed plants and animals) and broken bits of rocks and minerals.​ |
| **crystals**​ | Crystals are a special kind of solid material where the molecules fit together in a repeating pattern.​ |
| **sedimentary**​ | Sedimentary rocks are made when sand, mud and pebbles get laid down in layers. Over time, these layers are squashed under more and more layers.​ |
| **metamorphic**​ | When a rock experiences heat and pressure, it becomes a metamorphic rock. All metamorphic rocks start as another type of rock.​ |
| **igneous**​ | Igneous rock is formed when magma cools and solidifies, it may do this above or below the Earth's surface.​ |
| **organic matter**​ | Organic matter is matter that has come from a recently living organism. It is capable of decaying.​ |
| *.*Key Scientist: William Smith (1769 – 1839) William was known as the 'Father of English Geology'. Geology is the name for the study of rocks. He collected fossils. He realised that he could tell the age of a rock by looking at the fossils inside it.  | *.* | ***Other key Facts*** |
| Fossils: Fossils are the remains or The impression left by a prehistoric plant or animal in a rock. 1) An animal, creature or plant dies and ends up at the bottom of the sea. It gets covered by a layer of sediment. 2) Over time, more layers of sediment form on top and the only part to remain are the bones. 3) Over a long period of time, the sea recedes (goes back) leaving the rock. 4) Erosion and weathering of the rock means the fossil can now be seen! |