

ROCKS, SOIL AND WATER

What are Rocks?

Rocks are solid objects found in nature.

Rocks are made up of minerals. **Minerals** are used by people every day. For example, a mineral called lead is used to make your pencil.

Rocks are nonliving things. They are NOT alive.

Rocks come in different shapes and sizes.



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Soil
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Soil can be made of clay, sand, and humus.

What is humus? **Humus** is made up of different things that were once alive.



**Let's check what we have learned so far:
What is humus?**

How Does Earth Change?



The Earth goes through many changes each day, week, month, and year! Many changes are so small that you can't see them, but some are big enough that you can see them.

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**Let's check what we have learned so far:
What is weathering?**

Volcanoes

Volcanoes cause changes on Earth too.

A **volcano** is an opening in the Earth's crust where hot, melted rock can quickly shoot out. This hot, melted rock comes from inside the Earth.



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Earthquakes cause changes on Earth too. The bigger the earthquake, the more changes it makes.

An **earthquake** is when the Earth's crust moves suddenly which causes the ground to shake and vibrate very hard. The shaking and vibration can cause a lot of damage to the Earth's surface and to the buildings on the Earth too.

*Let's check what we have learned so far:
What is a volcano?*

The Water Cycle

All living things need **WATER** to survive and to grow.

The movement and recycling of the Earth's water is called the water cycle. The water cycle is when water moves from the Earth to the air and back to the Earth again.



The Water Cycle Has Several Stages:

- **Evaporation** is when water (like the water in the ocean) changes from liquid into a gas – water vapor.
 - **Evaporation** happens when the sun warms a body of water (like an ocean or lake) and the heat changes some of the water into water vapor, which rises off the water and goes into the air.
- **Condensation** is when the water vapor in the air cools and changes back into a liquid.
- **Precipitation** is how the condensed water gets back to the earth! Rain, hail, sleet, and snow are all forms of precipitation.



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Water run-off is the water that falls back to earth as precipitation, and runs off of hills and mountains into lakes, rivers, and oceans.

Some water ends up on land and soaks into the ground. This water is called **groundwater**.

*Let's check what we have learned so far:
What is precipitation?*