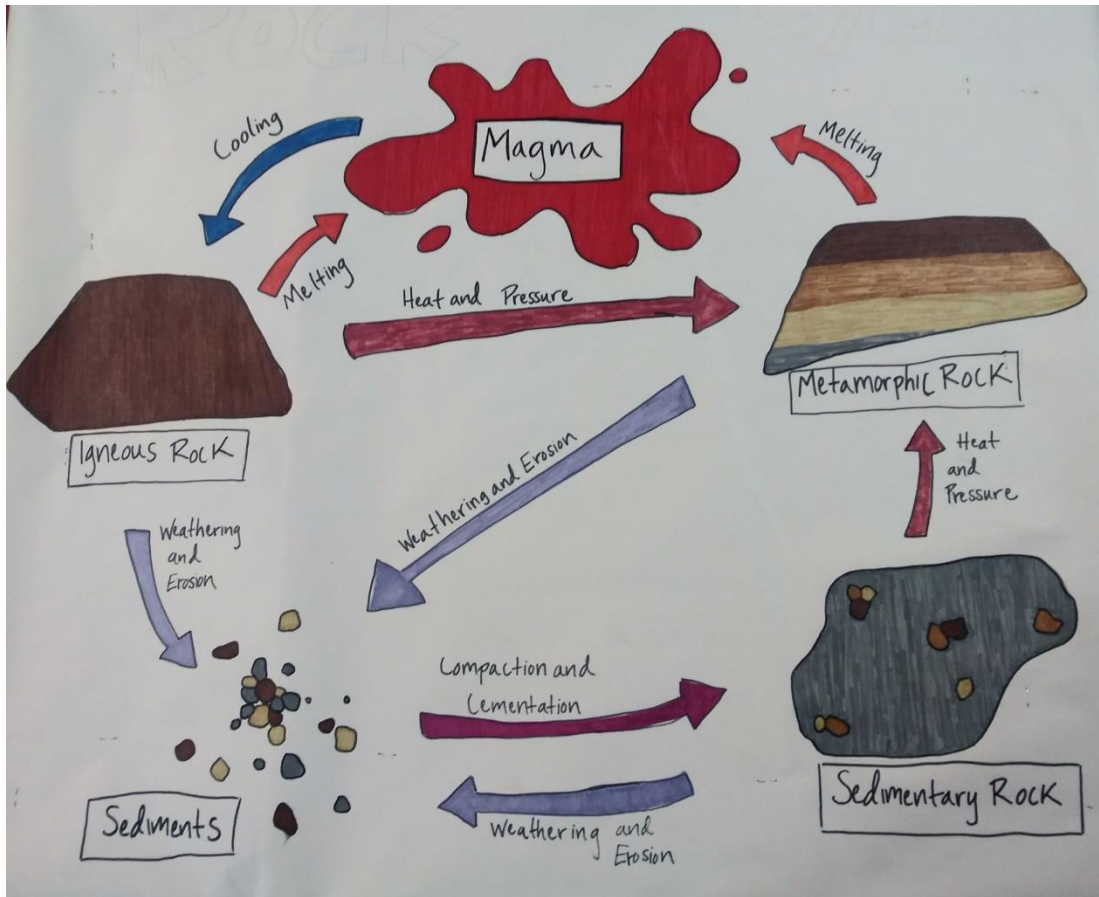


Rocking Around the Cycle



Just like water, rocks go through a cycle as well! We have 3 main types of rock:

1. **Igneous Rock**
2. **Metamorphic Rock**
3. **Sedimentary Rock**

Let's talk about what these rocks are and how they are formed!

Sediments are tiny pieces of rock which can include sand, dirt, and small stones. Sediments are created when rock is **weathered** or broken down by wind, water, and ice! The sediments can be **eroded** or moved by water and wind. The sediments are then **compacted** or pressed together over millions of years to make

sedimentary rocks! They can be layered or have very small, visible sediments.

Chalk, like the chalk we use for drawing, is a sedimentary rock. It is also made of really old sea creature shells and skeletons!

Magma is melted rock deep in the Earth. When it comes out of a volcano it becomes **lava**. When magma or lava cools it becomes an **igneous rock!** **Granite** is the state rock of New Hampshire and is a type of igneous rock that can be pink, white, or grey!

If we combine both heat and pressure, we form **metamorphic rocks**. Metamorphic rocks can be formed when rocks are pressed together and heat from magma or lava melts them just a little. **Marble** is a type of metamorphic rock that is used to make building and statues. Part of the Manchester City Library is made of marble!

Check your understanding:

1. When sediments are _____ they become sedimentary rock.
2. When magma cools it becomes a(n) _____ rock
3. When you apply heat and pressure to a sedimentary or igneous rock it becomes a _____ rock.
4. All rocks can go through _____ and _____ to become sediments.
5. If you _____ an igneous rock or metamorphic rock, it becomes magma.

Answers:

1. Compacted
2. Igneous
3. Metamorphic
4. Weathering; erosion
5. Melt