

SECTION
4-3

What Is a Rock?

(pages 93-97)

KEY CONCEPTS

▲ Rocks are placed into main groups according to how they form: igneous, sedimentary, and metamorphic.

Building Vocabulary Skills: Describing Terms

Write the term from this section that matches each description.

1. A hard substance composed of one or more minerals.

2. Rocks that get their name from the Latin word *ignis*.

3. Rocks formed from particles deposited by wind and water.

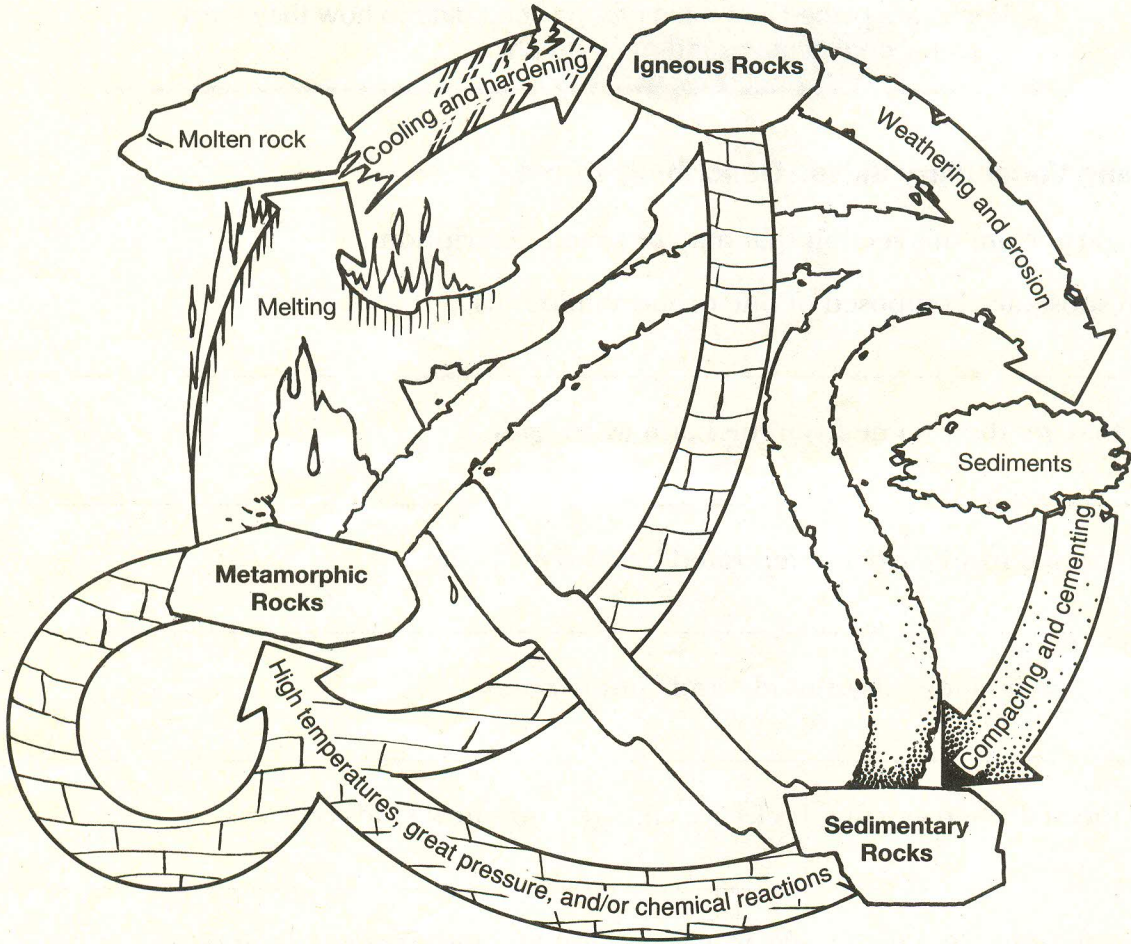
4. Particles that include bits of mud, sand, and pebbles.

5. Rocks formed when existing rocks are changed into new kinds of rocks.

6. The continuous change of rocks from one kind to another over a long period of time.

■ Interpreting Diagrams: Understanding the Main Ideas

The following diagram illustrates the rock cycle. Refer to the diagram as you answer the questions.



1. Is there only one sequence of steps in the rock cycle? How can you tell?

2. According to the diagram, what can happen to a sedimentary rock once it is formed?

3. What can happen to an igneous rock once it is formed? _____

4. What can happen to a metamorphic rock once it is formed? _____

5. When rocks are subjected to weathering and erosion at the Earth's surface, what type of rock do they eventually become? Explain how this happens. _____

6. When rocks melt, what kind of rocks do they become? How does this happen? _____

7. What happens to rocks when they are subjected to high temperatures and great pressure, and/or chemical reactions? _____
