


Rock Identification Guide

Igneous	Sedimentary	Metamorphic
		
Basalt	Conglomerate	Marble
		
Diorite	Limestone	Quartzite
		
Granite	Sandstone	Schist
		
Obsidian	Shale	Slate

There are three groups of rocks, igneous, sedimentary, and metamorphic. Rocks are big and small. Rocks are of many colors even colors mixed together. Igneous rocks were formed by heat. Sedimentary rocks were formed by sediment from rivers and streams. Metamorphic rocks began as one kind of rock and later were changed into another kind. This guide provides a few examples from each group. To learn more about rocks, visit the U.S. Geological Survey site at <http://geomaps.wr.usgs.gov/parks/rxmin/>.