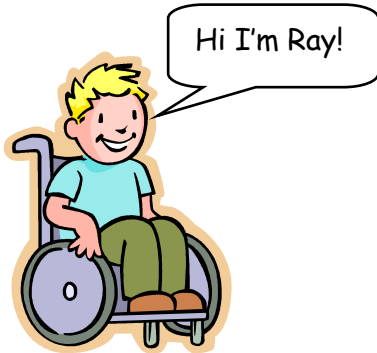


Characteristics of Rocks



POS - compare and group together different kinds of rocks on the basis of their appearance and simple physical properties

NaG - pupils should explore different kinds of rocks and soils, including those in the local environment; observe rocks, including those used in buildings and gravestones

WS - pupils should use straightforward scientific evidence to answer questions or to support their findings

Different rocks are selected by people to do different jobs. Not all rocks can do the same job.

A rock is chosen to do a job because of its **characteristics** (properties).

Ray begins discussing different rocks and outlines what they could be used for.



Chalk is a soft rock. It leaves a clear white mark when dragged along hard surfaces.



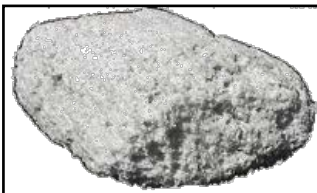
Granite is a very hard and attractive rock. It can be polished to a smooth, shiny finish.



Slate is an impermeable (waterproof) rock that forms long, flat sheets when broken. Water runs off it.



Sandstone is useful in construction and is abundant. This rock can be easily cut and shaped into blocks. It has been used by builders since the Ancient Egyptians. This rock is permeable and erodes quite easily.











Limestone is useful in construction. It is abundant, and is easy to cut and shape. Limestone is a hard rock that takes a long time to erode, even when walked on.



Diamond is the hardest rock and is difficult to break or scratch. It is clear, shiny and attractive, and is very expensive to buy.

Write the name of the rock you think is being used in the picture and explain why you think that rock was chosen. What are the properties of the rock that make it good for doing that particular job?

Chopping board		Fireplace	
	Rock:		Rock:
	Reason:		Reason:
Roof		Pavement	
	Rock:		Rock:
	Reason:		Reason:
Monument		Wall	
	Rock:		Rock:
	Reason:		Reason:
Art and drawing		Engagement ring	
	Rock:		Rock:
	Reason:		Reason: