

Vocabulary



chalk rock composed of shells of microscopic (tiny) organisms
Chalk that you draw with is made of the rock, chalk, plus other ingredients to make it stronger.

conglomerate rock made when rock particles of different sizes, such as pebbles and sand, are cemented together by pressure and minerals
Conglomerate forms when sediments of many mixed-up sizes are turned into rock.

fossiliferous limestone rock made of pieces of shells that you can see
All limestone is made of calcium carbonate, or the mineral calcite. In fossiliferous limestone, the calcium carbonate is in the form of bits and pieces of seashells.

limestone rock made mostly of the mineral calcite
Some limestone was formed from the shells of extremely tiny living things. Some formed when ocean water evaporated, without any living things involved. In both cases, you cannot see any pieces of shells in it.

sandstone rock made when sand is cemented by pressure and chemicals
Almost all sandstone formed in a place where water used to be. The water sorted out the sediments into different sizes. Where sand settled out, that is where sandstone formed.

sediment small pieces of rocks and minerals that were worn away from larger rocks
All sediment forms when rocks are broken down into smaller pieces. Before sedimentary rock can form, weathering has to take place.

shale rock made when mud is cemented by pressure and minerals
Mud is one of the smallest sediments. It only settles out of water that is holding still. Anywhere that you find shale, you know that place used to be underwater.