

Name: _____

Date: _____

NAME THAT ROCK CATEGORY

As you know, we can name three categories of rock...and I do not mean Goth, Punk, and Heavy Metal! Igneous, Sedimentary, and Metamorphic rocks are all formed in different ways and, as a result, have different characteristics.

Below are three different explanations of a rock category. Individually read the description and state what category you think is being described. Then provide a detailed explanation as to why you think it is that category. Use the characteristics in the explanation along with the information you know about how the different rocks are formed to justify your opinion. You may reference your previous work.

Once you have completed all three explanations find a partner, who is also done, to sit with and discuss your thoughts. If they are the same, see if you have different details. If your thoughts are different, see if you can rationally figure out who is correct.

Category #1: _____

These rocks often have flat layers. They are composed of pieces that are roughly the same size, with pores between these pieces that are commonly filled with smaller grains. This type of rock sometimes contains fossils.

Category #2: _____

These rocks may have alternating bands of light and dark minerals, or may be composed predominantly of only one mineral. This type of rock rarely contains fossils.

Category #3: _____

These rocks generally have no layers. They have variable textures and do not contain fossils.

