

# Earth Science Regents

Igneous, Sedimentary, or Metamorphic?

## **I know a rock is igneous if:**

I see randomly located interlocking crystals  
or  
I see vesicles where gases escaped as lava cooled  
or  
The texture of the rock is glassy due to extremely rapid cooling (it is Obsidian!)

## **I know a rock is sedimentary if:**

I see layers of sediment cemented together  
and/or  
I see ripple marks  
and/or  
I see mud cracks  
and/or  
I see fossils  
or  
I see cobbles, pebbles, and sand grains cemented together

## **I know a rock is metamorphic if:**

I see bands of light and dark minerals  
or  
I see distorted / folded, foliated structure  
or  
I see foliated “layers” of platey, flakey minerals like mica  
or  
I see a very hard, resistant, uniform, and weathered quartzy boulder