

Space Word Sheets

Word	Pronunciation	Meaning
axis	<i>acks-iss</i>	Imaginary vertical line that goes from one pole of the Earth to the other. The Earth spins around its axis.
day		24 hours, the time it takes the Earth to spin once on its axis.
Earth		The planet we live on.
leap year		A year with 366 days in it. We have a leap year every 4 years.
lunar month		28 days – the time it takes the Moon to orbit around the Earth once.
Moon		A moon is a large lump of rock orbiting around a planet. The Moon is the moon that orbits the Earth.
orbit		The path that a planet takes around the Sun, or the path that a moon or satellite takes around a planet.
satellite		Anything that orbits a planet.
sphere	<i>sfear</i>	A shape like a ball.
Sun		The star that the Earth orbits around.
year		The length of time it takes a planet to go around the Sun. One year on Earth is 365.25 days.

Moonshine

Word	Pronunciation	Meaning
full moon		The phase of the Moon when it looks like a bright, full circle.
luminous		Gives out light.
lunar eclipse		When the Moon moves into the shadow of the Earth.
new moon		The phase of the Moon when we cannot see the lit-up side.
partial eclipse		A solar eclipse when the Moon only covers part of the Sun.
phases of the Moon		The different shapes the Moon seems to have at different times.
solar eclipse		When the Moon is between the Sun and the Earth, and casts a shadow on part of the Earth.
total eclipse		A solar eclipse when the Moon completely blocks out light from the Sun.

A plan for all seasons

Word	Pronunciation	Meaning
Equator	<i>ee-kwate-er</i>	An imaginary line around the middle of the Earth.
hemispheres	<i>hem-ee-sfears</i>	The two halves of a sphere – the shape you would get if you cut a solid ball in half.
northern hemisphere		The half of the Earth with the North Pole in it. The UK is in the northern hemisphere.

The Solar System

Word	Pronunciation	Meaning
asteroid	<i>ass-ter-oyd</i>	A small lump of rock orbiting around the Sun
inner planets		Mercury, Venus, Earth and Mars. The inner planets are all rocky planets.
outer planets		Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus, Neptune and Pluto. All the outer planets except Pluto are made of gas.
solar system		A star with planets and other objects orbiting it.

Starry, starry nights

Word	Pronunciation	Meaning
constellation	<i>con-stell-ay-shun</i>	A pattern of stars.
galaxy		Millions of stars grouped together.
light year		The distance that light travels in one year.
Milky Way		The galaxy that our Solar System is in.
star		A huge ball of gas that gives out heat and light energy.
Universe		All the galaxies and the space between them make up the Universe.

Rocks Word Sheets

Rock on

Word	Pronunciation	Meaning
crystals	<i>kris-tals</i>	Pieces of a mineral with sharp edges.
grain		Tiny, rounded piece of rock.
interlocking		When crystals fit together with no gaps between them.
minerals		The chemicals that rocks are made from.
mixture		Two or more different kinds of mineral that are not chemically joined to each other.
porous	<i>poor-us</i>	Porous rocks can soak up water.
texture		The scientific word used to describe the shapes and sizes of the crystals or grains in a rock.

Settling Down

Word	Pronunciation	Meaning
cementation	<i>sem-men-tay-shun</i>	A process in which water is squeezed out of the spaces between pieces of rock leaving mineral salts behind which stick (cement) the rock pieces together.
cemented	<i>sem-men-ted</i>	Something that has been stuck together.
chalk		Soft white or grey rock formed from the shells of small sea animals.
compaction	<i>com-pack-shun</i>	When layers of sediment or rock are squashed by the weight of sediment above them.
deposits		When moving water drops rock fragments or grains.
fossil		The remains of a dead animal or plant that became trapped in layers of sediment and turned into rock.
grain		Tiny, rounded piece of rock.
limestone		A sedimentary rock made from the shells of dead sea creatures consisting mainly of calcium carbonate.
minerals		The chemicals that rocks are made from.
porous	<i>por-us</i>	Porous rocks can soak up water.
sandstone		A sedimentary rock made from rounded grains of sand.
sediment		Rock grains and fragments dropped on the bottom of a river, lake or sea.
sedimentary rock		Rock formed from layers of sediment.
shale		A sedimentary rock.

All change!

Word	Pronunciation	Meaning
magma		Molten rock beneath the surface of the Earth.
marble		A metamorphic rock formed from limestone.
metamorphic	<i>met-a-mor-fik</i>	A word meaning 'changed'.
metamorphic rocks	<i>met-a-mor-fik</i>	Rocks that have been formed by changing igneous or sedimentary rocks.
mudstone		A sedimentary rock made from mud.
quartzite	<i>kwartz-ite</i>	A metamorphic rock formed from sandstone.
sandstone		A sedimentary rock made from rounded grains of sand.
slate		A metamorphic rock with tiny crystals, formed from mudstone.

A river of rock

Word	Pronunciation	Meaning
basalt	<i>ba-salt</i>	An igneous rock with very tiny crystals.
bonds		Forces holding particles together.
crust		The solid rocks at the surface of the Earth.
crystal	<i>kris-tal</i>	Piece of mineral with sharp edges.
granite	<i>gran-it</i>	An igneous rock with large crystals.
igneous rock	<i>igg-nee-us</i>	A rock formed when magma or lava cooled down and solidified.
lava	<i>lar-va</i>	Molten rock that runs out of volcanoes.
magma		Molten rock beneath the surface of the Earth.
mantle	<i>man-tel</i>	The part of the Earth below the crust.
particles		The tiny pieces that everything is made out of.
volcano		A place where lava flows out of the Earth.

Hot and cold

Word	Pronunciation	Meaning
biological weathering		When rocks are worn away or broken up due to the activities of living things. For example, growing plant roots can split rocks apart.
contract		Get smaller.
erosion	<i>eh-rO-shun</i>	The movement of loose and weathered rock.
expand		Get bigger.
freeze–thaw action		A type of physical weathering that happens when water gets into a crack in a rock and freezes. The freezing water expands and makes the crack bigger.
physical change	<i>fizz-ick-al</i>	A change that does not involve new chemicals. Melting and freezing are examples of physical changes.
physical weathering		When rocks are worn away or broken up by physical processes such as changes in temperature.

Go with the flow

Word	Pronunciation	Meaning
abrasion		When rock fragments bump into each other and wear away.
deposits		When moving water drops rock fragments or grains.

sediment		Rock grains and fragments dropped on the bottom of a river, lake or sea.
transport		The movement of rock grains and fragments by wind or water.
erosion	<i>e-row-shun</i>	The movement of pieces of rock by the wind, water, etc

Settling down

Word	Pronunciation	Meaning
coal		A fossil fuel made from the remains of plants.
fossils		Any sign of past life that has been preserved in a rock.
natural gas		Fossil fuel formed from the remains of dead plants and animals that lived in the sea.
oil		Fossil fuel formed from the remains of dead plants and animals that lived in the sea.
salts		Chemicals from rocks that have dissolved in water.

Acid rain/The effects of acid rain/A cure for acid rain?

Word	Pronunciation	Meaning
acid rain		Rain that is more acidic than usual (pH less than 5.6) due to high amounts of dissolved acidic gases.
catalytic converter		A device fitted to a car's exhaust to change harmful gases into harmless gases.
carbon dioxide (CO ₂)		A slightly acidic gas formed when carbon reacts with oxygen (and during respiration).
combustion		The scientific word for burning.
corrosive		A substance that is corrosive reacts with certain substances and wears them away.
nitrogen oxides		Acidic gases formed when nitrogen reacts with oxygen. Includes nitrogen dioxide (NO ₂).
photosynthesis	<i>foto-sinth-e-sis</i>	Process in plants which takes in carbon dioxide and water and, using the Sun's energy, makes glucose and oxygen.
respiration	<i>res-per-ay-shun</i>	Process which occurs in all living cells that releases energy from food. Carbon dioxide is one of the products.
sulphur dioxide (SO ₂)		An acidic gas formed when sulphur reacts with oxygen.
sulphur precipitator	<i>pre-sip-it-ate-or</i>	A device used in power stations to remove sulphur dioxide gas from the gases coming out of the chimney.