

Year 7 Local Landscapes - Cheddar

Our second Geography unit in year 7 will focus on looking at **our local landscape**. We will be looking at how Cheddar Gorge was formed, the features of a limestone landscape and the impact that quarrying has on our local area.

Key words and definitions

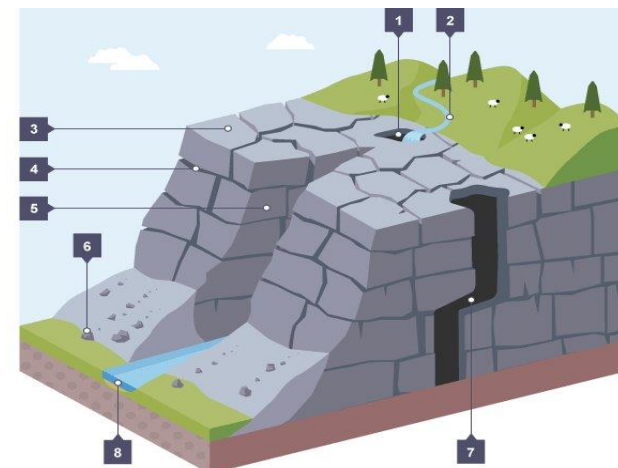
Limestone	A sedimentary rock
The Rock Cycle	The process of recycling rocks over millions of years
Erosion	The wearing away of the land by natural forces e.g. wind, rain or snow.
Weathering	A natural process that breaks apart rocks
Deposition	When rock is moved from one place to another to form new land.
Scar	A crack in the limestone caused by expanding water.
Limestone pavement	A flat surface of exposed limestone.
Gorge	A narrow valley between rocky cliffs, with steep walls.
Scree	An area of small, loose stones.
Swallow hole	Where the stream disappears underground.
Stalagmite	A rock formation that grows up from the floor of a cave.
Stalactite	A rock formation that hangs from the roof of a cave.
Karst Scenery	Features of the limestone
Quarrying	The mining of stone or rock

Features of a limestone landscape.

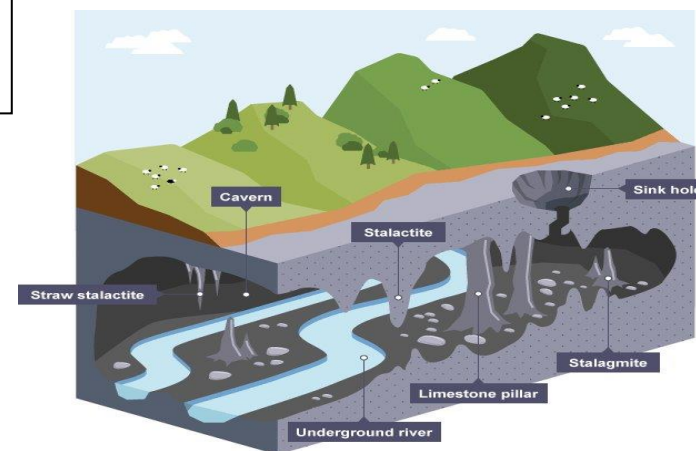
Cheddar Gorge is made up of limestone.

Limestone is a sedimentary rock. This means it is made of calcium carbonates.

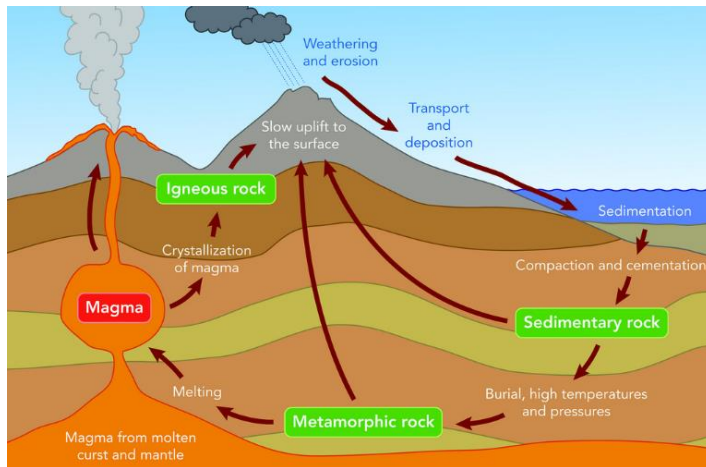
Calcium carbonates can be dissolved by rainwater. This creates fantastic features in the limestone when the rock wears away.



1	Swallow hole / pothole	4	Scar	7	Cave / cavern
2	Disappearing stream	5	Gorge	8	Reappearing stream
3	Limestone pavement	6	Scree		



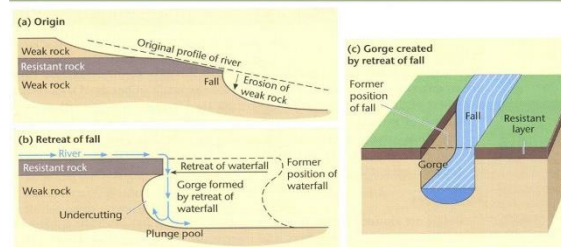
The Rock Cycle



- The rocks on Earth are constantly changing due to many different processes.
- There are three main types of rock, with rocks changing between each type over millions of years.
- These rocks are Igneous rocks, Sedimentary rocks and Metamorphic rocks.
- This rock recycling is a process called the rock cycle.

How was Cheddar Gorge formed

Formation of waterfall and a gorge



Cheddar Gorge used to have a river running across the top.

Overtime, the river weakened the sedimentary rock causing erosion.

A waterfall was formed. This undercut the weaker rock and formed a plunge pool.

The gorge was formed by the retreating waterfall. The Gorge is 3 miles long.

Positive and Negative impacts of quarrying

Here are some factors about quarrying to consider:

- Quarrying provides **employment**.
- The hole is **ugly**.
- The quarry provides **necessary rock** for producing building materials.
- There has been a loss of wildlife **habitat**.
- The lorries are **dirty**.
- The blasting is **noisy**.
- The works produce a lot of **smoke pollution**.



