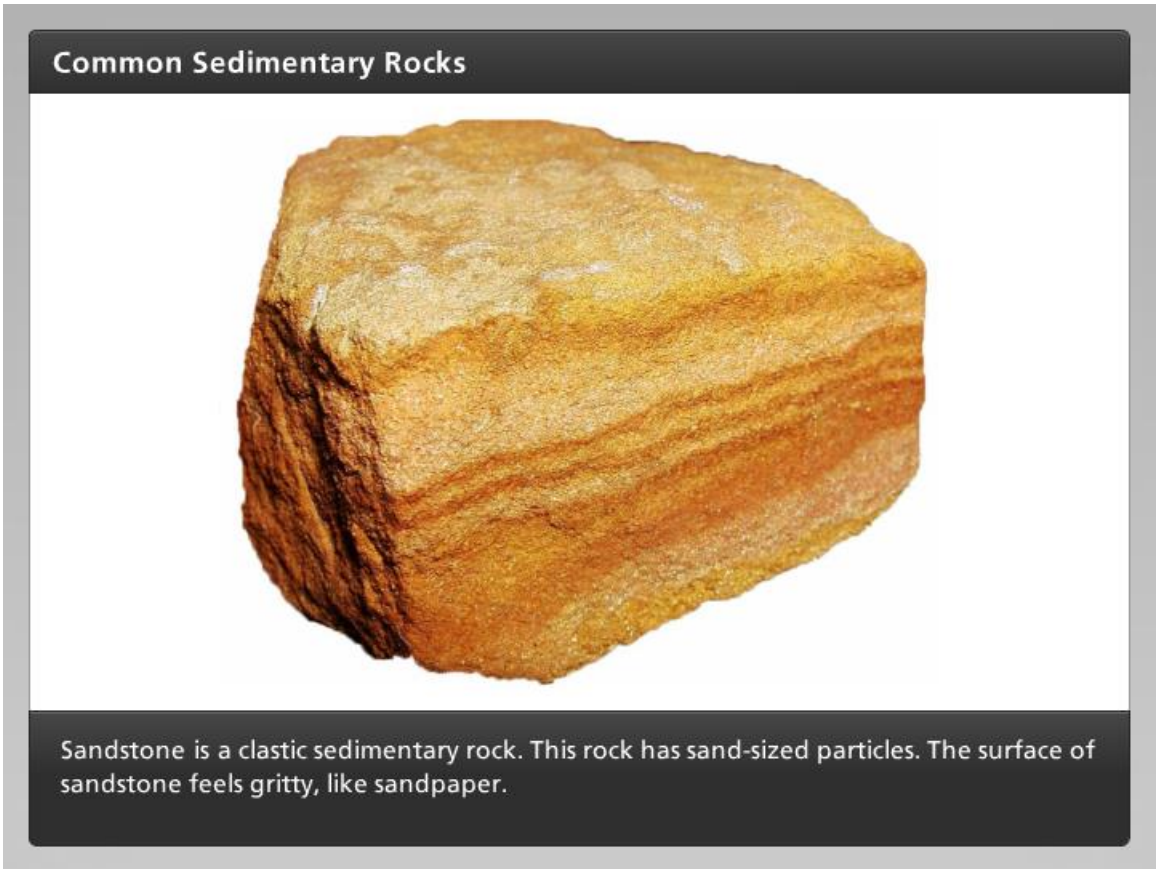
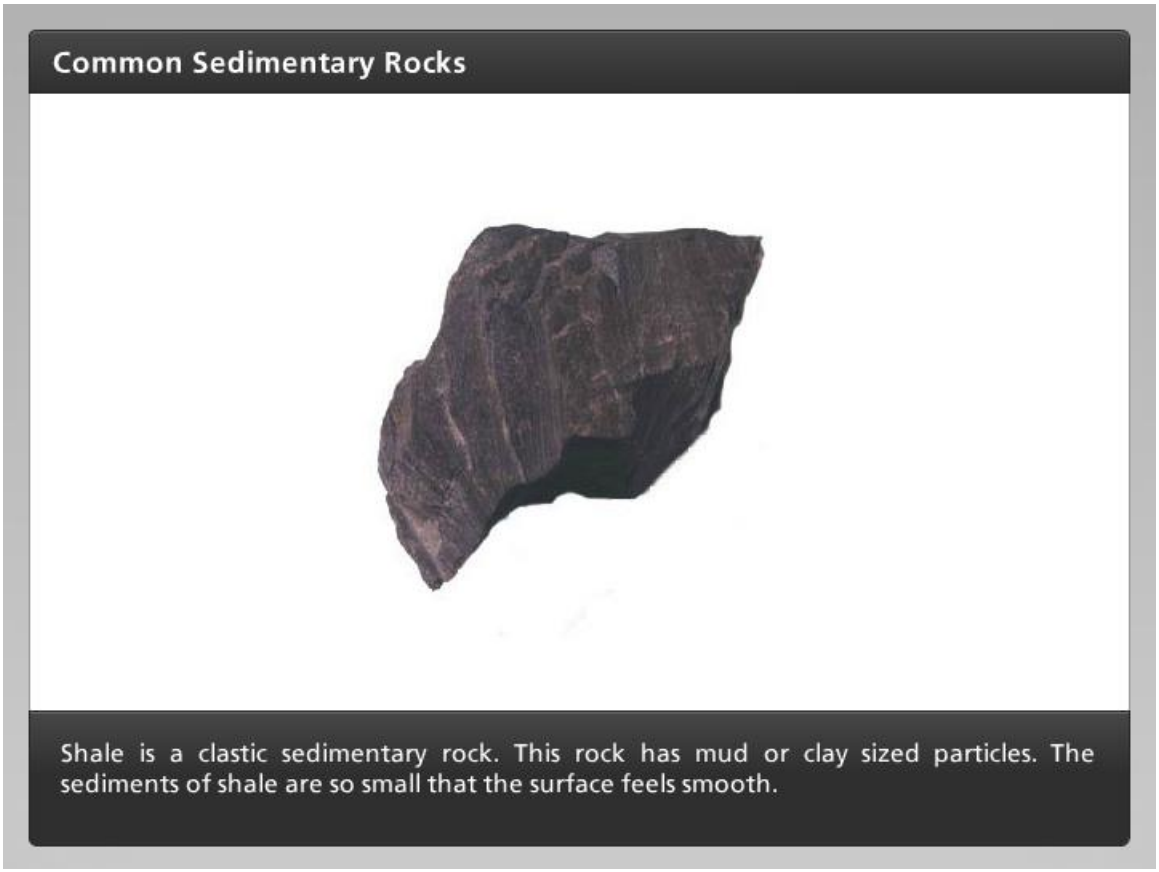
Module 6: Rocks
Topic 2 Content: Common Sedimentary Rocks Notes



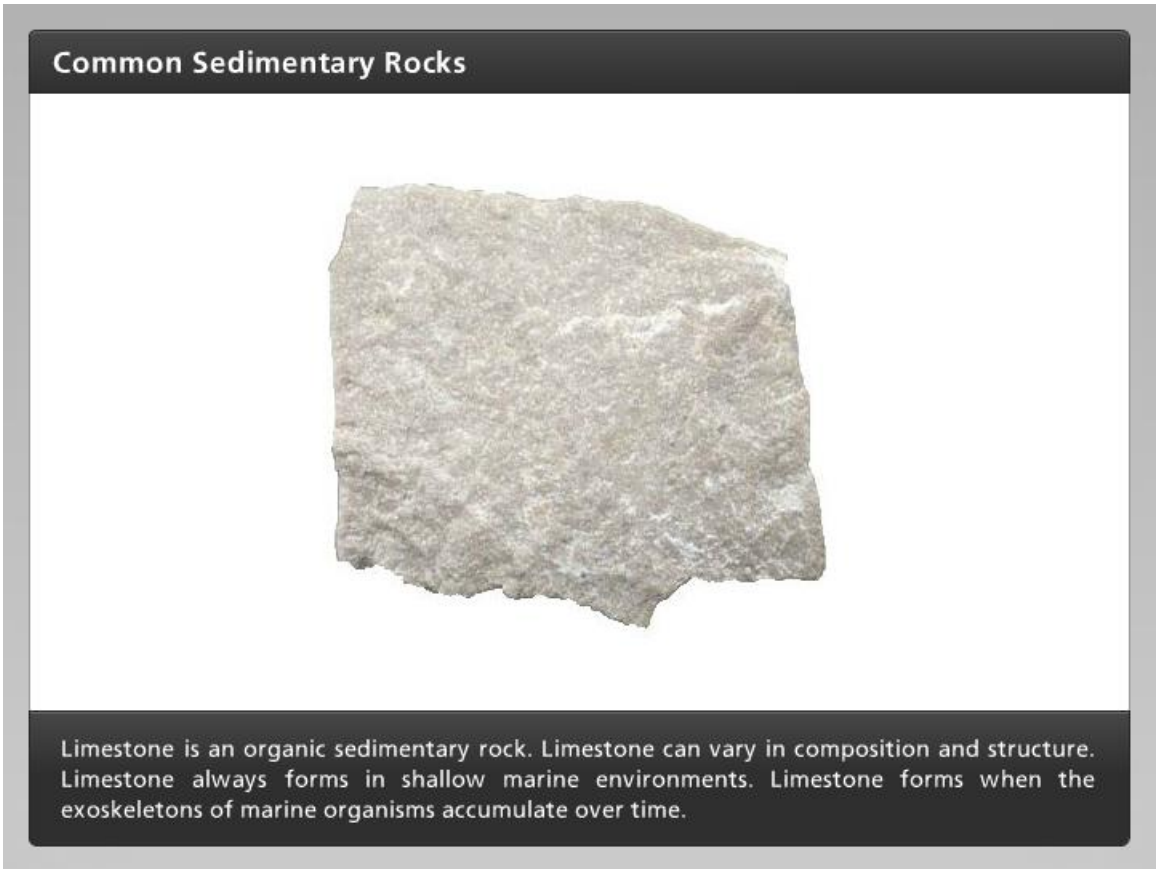
Sandstone is a clastic sedimentary rock. This rock has sand-sized particles. The surface of sandstone feels gritty, like sandpaper.

Module 6: Rocks
Topic 2 Content: Common Sedimentary Rocks Notes



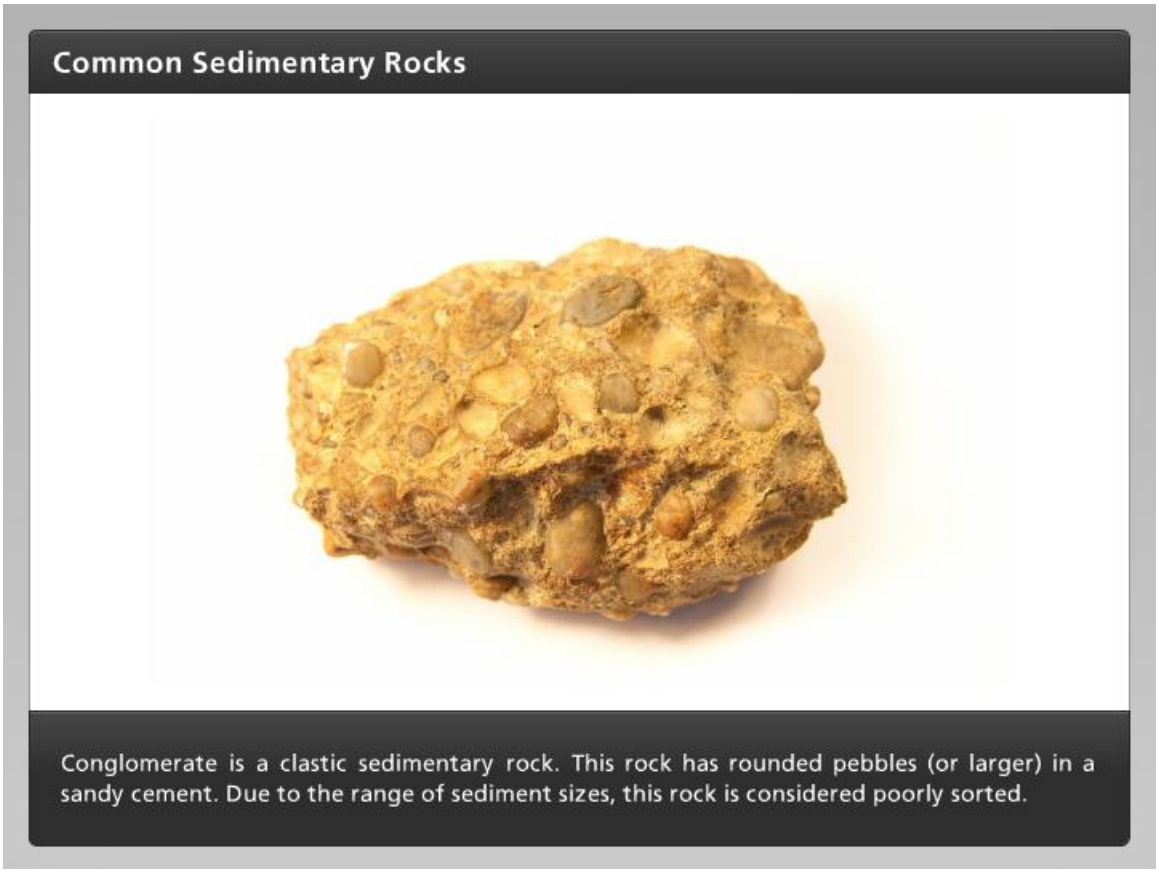
Shale is a clastic sedimentary rock. This rock has mud or clay sized particles. The sediments of shale are so small that the surface feels smooth.

Module 6: Rocks
Topic 2 Content: Common Sedimentary Rocks Notes



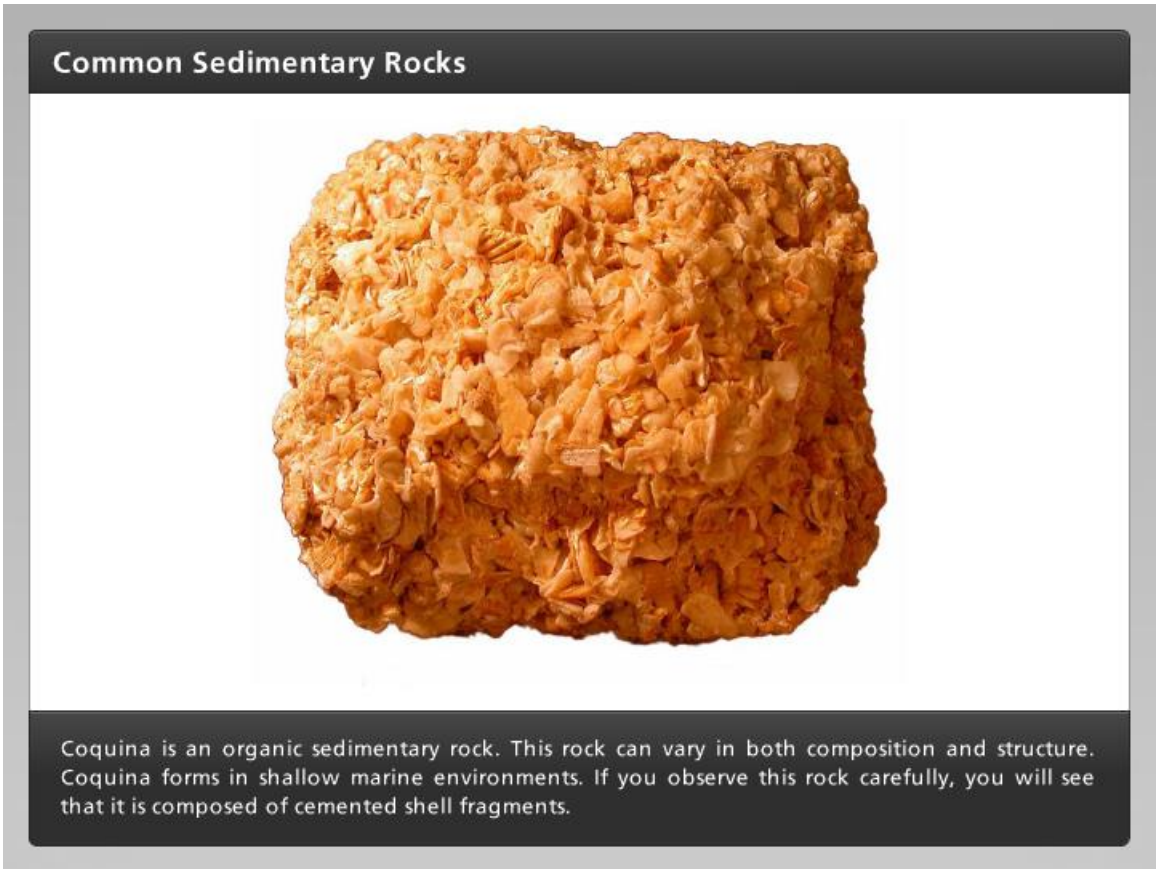
Limestone is an organic sedimentary rock. Limestone can vary in composition and structure. Limestone always forms in shallow marine environments. Limestone forms when the exoskeletons of marine organisms accumulate over time.

Module 6: Rocks
Topic 2 Content: Common Sedimentary Rocks Notes



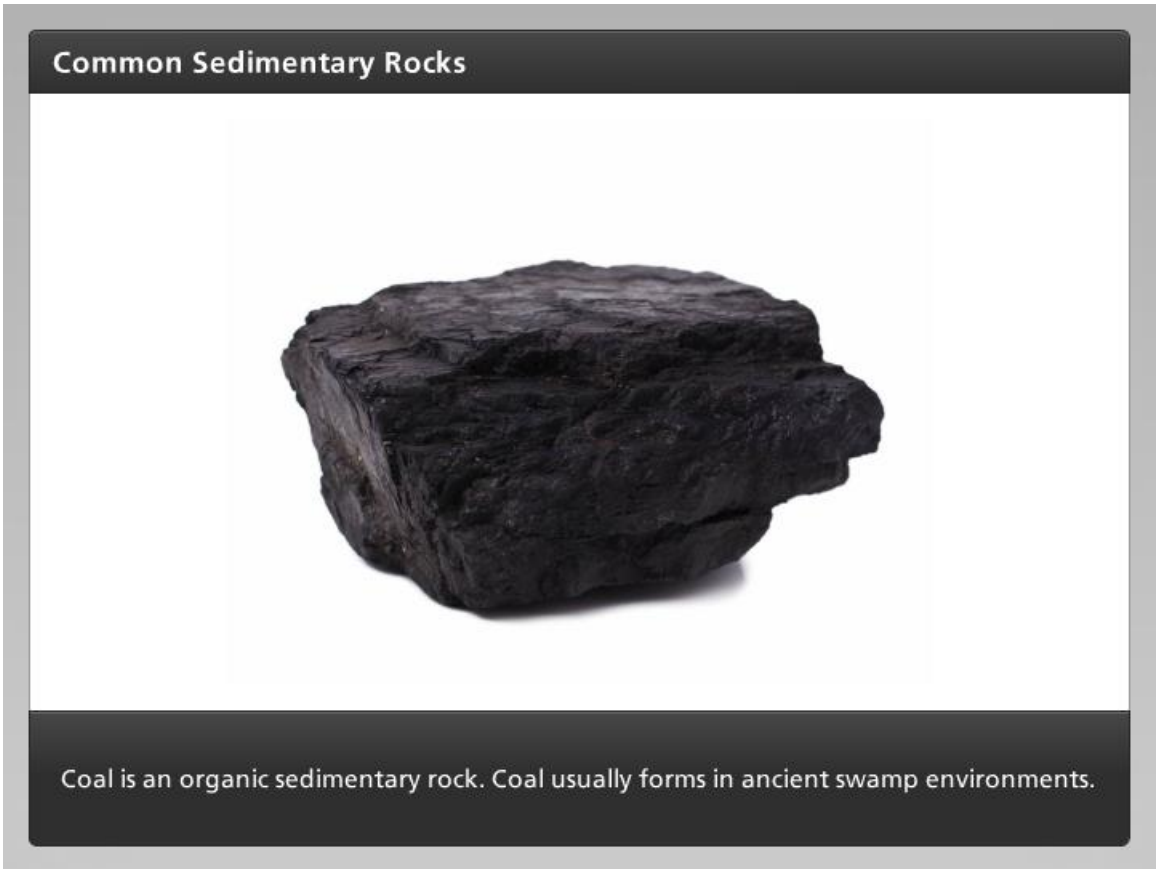
Conglomerate is a clastic sedimentary rock. This rock has rounded pebbles (or larger) in a sandy cement. Due to the range of sediment sizes, this rock is considered poorly sorted.

Module 6: Rocks
Topic 2 Content: Common Sedimentary Rocks Notes



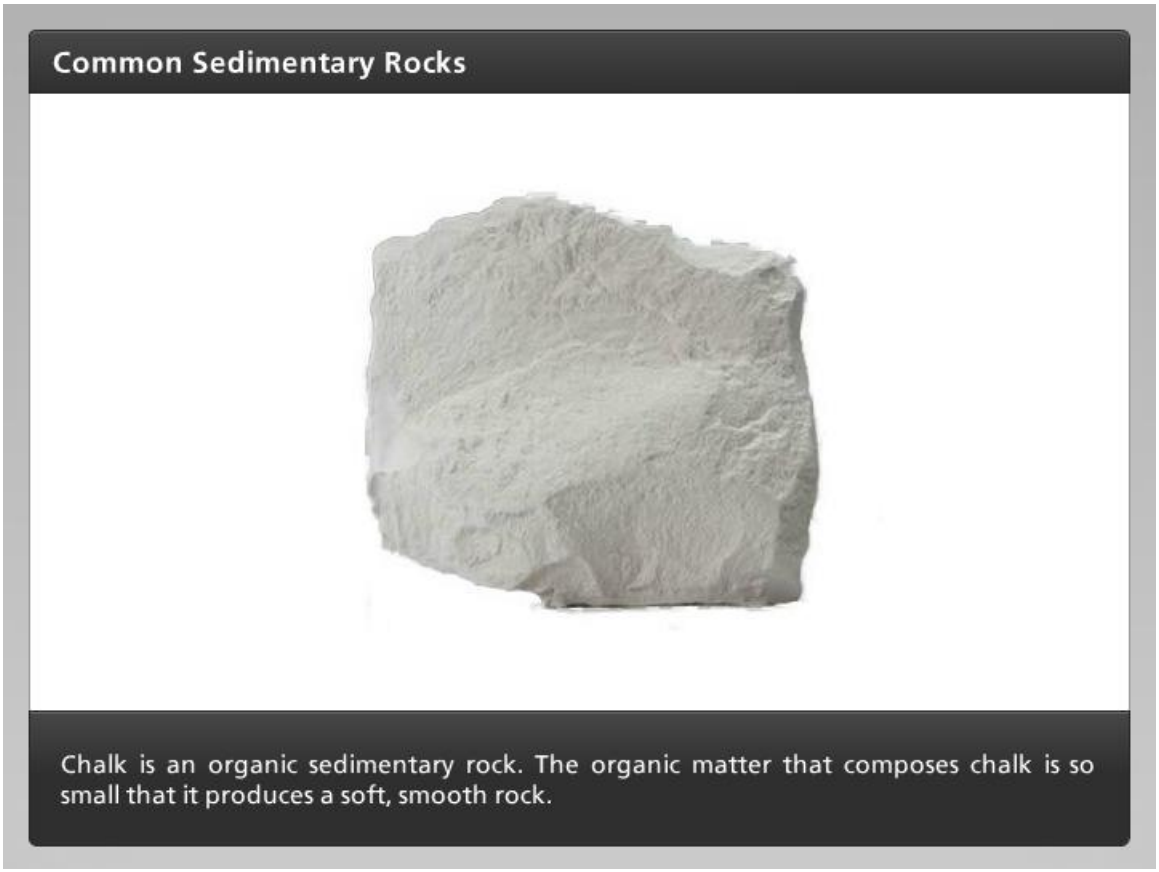
Coquina is an organic sedimentary rock. This rock can vary in both composition and structure. Coquina forms in shallow marine environments. If you observe this rock carefully, you will see that it is composed of cemented shell fragments.

Module 6: Rocks
Topic 2 Content: Common Sedimentary Rocks Notes



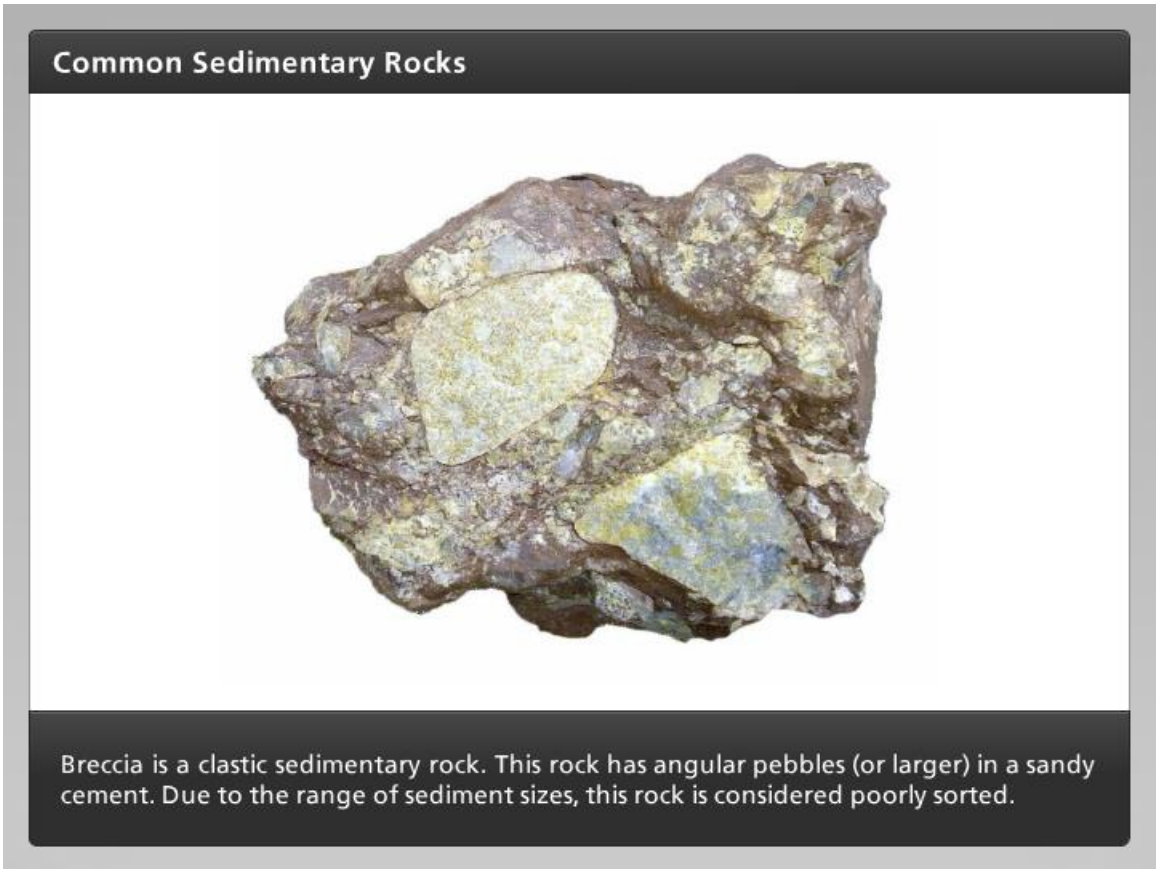
Coal is an organic sedimentary rock. Coal usually forms in ancient swamp environments.

Module 6: Rocks
Topic 2 Content: Common Sedimentary Rocks Notes



Chalk is an organic sedimentary rock. The organic matter that composes chalk is so small that it produces a soft, smooth rock.

Module 6: Rocks
Topic 2 Content: Common Sedimentary Rocks Notes



Breccia is a clastic sedimentary rock. This rock has angular pebbles (or larger) in a sandy cement. Due to the range of sediment sizes, this rock is considered poorly sorted.