



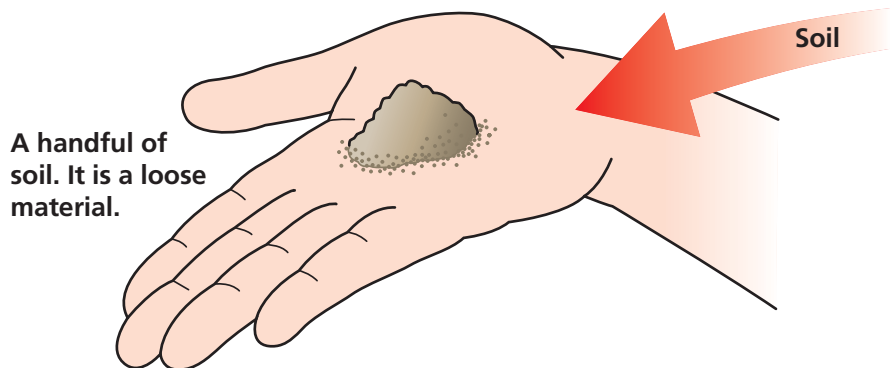
# Rock and soil

The Earth's surface is made of rocks, but they are mostly covered up with soils. You can find bare rocks if you know where to look.

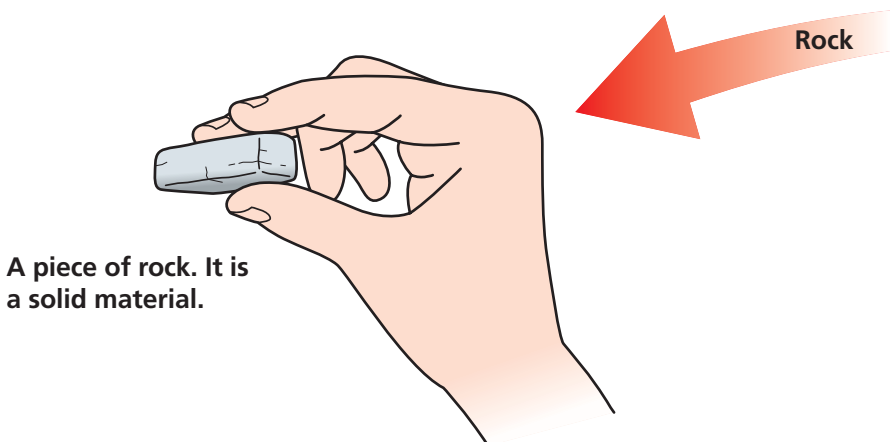
Most of us rarely see large amounts of **ROCK**. This is very strange because the whole of the Earth's surface is made of rock. However, in most places the rocks are covered up by soil (Picture 1), so you have to know where to look to find them.

Rocks can be seen in seaside cliffs and in quarries (Picture 2). When you look into a **QUARRY** you can see that we live on a world of solid rock.

▼ (Picture 1) Soil is a thin layer on top of rock.



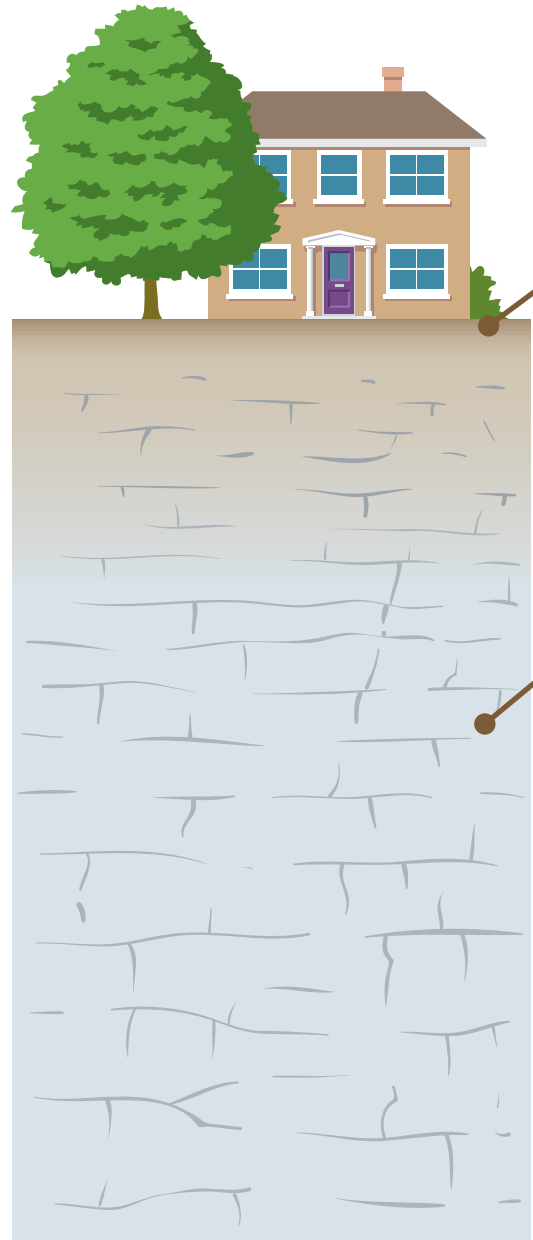
A handful of soil. It is a loose material.



A piece of rock. It is a solid material.

## Rock and soil

Between us and rock there is a layer of soft, loose material. It is called **SOIL**. A soil is made of tiny pieces. Soil covers the rock. It is only a metre or so thick.



▼ (Picture 2) This is a quarry in Cornwall. So much rock has been taken away that there is now a very deep hole.

At the top of the picture you will see houses. They help you to see how deep the quarry is.

### Summary

- Rock is solid material, such as seen in a quarry.
- Soil lies on top of rock.



Never go alone near a quarry or a rocky cliff