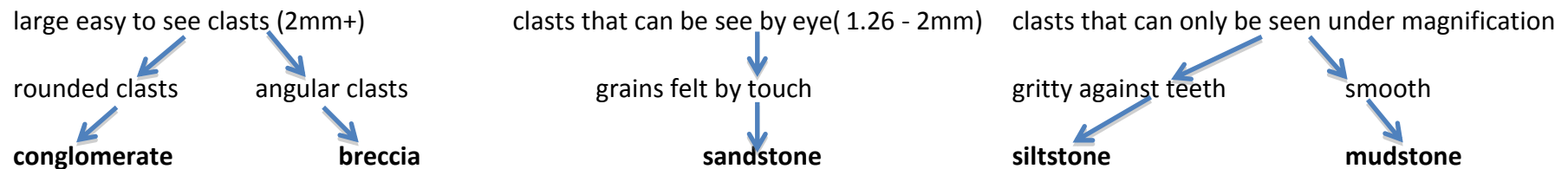


## Recognising Sedimentary Rocks - Student Activity

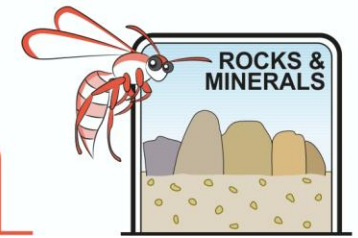
Sedimentary rocks are made of clasts and are usually softer than igneous or metamorphic rocks. They are not crystalline. They show signs of bedding and sometimes contain fossils.

**Clastic sediments** are classified by their grain size. They show signs of bedding.



**Biogenic sediments** have no clasts and **often** have fossils. They can be massive with few signs of bedding

Name	Colour	Source	Texture	Test with acid	Comment
<b>Coal</b>	Black	Swamp vegetation	Soft, can scrape with metal blade	No result	Will ignite
<b>Limestone</b>	Grey to buff	Coral reefs and shells	Variable	Effervesce	Can be massive
<b>Chalk</b>	White	Marine algal shells	Very soft. You can scrape with fingernail. Will leave a white stripe on wood.	Effervesce	Tiny marine algal shells
<b>Spongelite</b>	Many colours, mostly white	Microscopic silica skeletons of sponges	Harsh to touch	No result	Microscopic silica skeletons of sponges



## Recognising Sedimentary Rocks - Student Activity

**Chemical sediments** are formed when inorganic material builds up into a mass. Most of the rocks above also have chemical components.

**Evaporites** are formed when large masses of water dry up leaving salt (halite), gypsum (hydrated calcium sulphate and anhydrite (calcium sulphate)).

**Chemical limestone** is deposited from dissolved lime in groundwater or seawater. Tamala limestone is the name given to our white coastal limestone that was used for building much of old Fremantle. The sea deposited sand dunes rich in shells. Lime from the sea shells was dissolved into groundwater and later redeposited elsewhere to leave sandy (lime poor) sections and make hard lime rich areas. This means that Tamala limestone is not laid down in time specific beds but is the generic name for chemically deposited limestone zones within sediments.

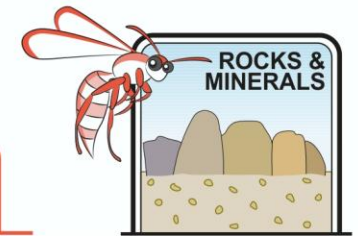
The following pictures are of sedimentary rocks from Western Australia. Name each rock type and explain which characteristics led you to this conclusion



**HINT** *The hammer gives you an idea of scale*



**HINT** *This rock leaves a white streak on wood*



## Recognising Sedimentary Rocks - Student Activity



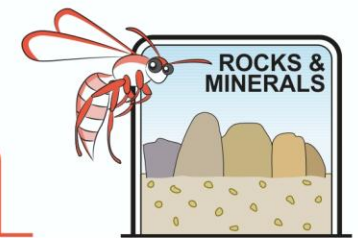
**HINT** *The mountains were rising very very fast*



**HINT** *Beach*



**HINT** *Smooth but will scrape your teeth*



## Recognising Sedimentary Rocks - Student Activity



**HINT** *Feels rough and gritty*



**Hint** *It can be scraped by a finger nail.*