

What are Fossil Fuels?



If you have ever walked along the bottom of a cliff, you may have noticed that the rocks form layers. Different layers may have different colors or textures. They may be made of bits of other rocks. Rocks form layers like these over millions of years. As the layers build up, the pressure on the bottom layers increases. The pressure on the rocks causes their temperatures to increase as well. **Sometimes, rock layers form over the remains of plants and animals.**

Scientists call these remains **organic matter**. High pressures and temperatures can change organic matter into three very important kinds of things: coal, oil, and natural gas.

We call these fossil fuels.



Fossil fuels are found in sedimentary rock, which is often located beneath a body or former body of water such as an ocean or swamp. Mostly decaying organisms are found in these nonrenewable resources.

