

## GLOSSARY

### B

**batholith** intrusive formations with at least a surface exposure of 100 square kilometers and reaching a depth of thousands of meters (180)

**breccia** elastic sedimentary rock composed of angular fragments cemented together by minerals (182)

### C

**cementation** process in which dissolved minerals left by water passing through sediments bind the sediments together (182)

**chemical sedimentary rock** rock formed from minerals that precipitate from water (182)

**clastic sedimentary rock** rock made up of fragments from pre-existing rocks (182)

**compaction** process in which air and water are squeezed out of sediments, resulting in the formation of sedimentary rock (182)

**concretion** nodule of rock with a different composition from that of the main rock body (186)

**conglomerate** sedimentary rock composed of rounded gravel or pebbles cemented together by minerals (182)

**contact metamorphism** change in the structure and mineral composition of rock surrounding an igneous intrusion (187)

### D

**dike** igneous intrusion that cuts across rock layers (181)

### E

**evaporites** sedimentary rocks formed from minerals left after water evaporates (183)

**extrusive igneous rocks** rocks formed from molten lava that hardens on the Earth's surface (178)

### F

**foliated** describing a metamorphic rock with parallel bands (187)

**fossil** trace or remains of a plant or an animal in sedimentary rock (186)

## GLOSSARY

### I

**igneous rock** rock formed from cooled and hardened magma (175)

**intrusive igneous rocks** rocks formed from the cooling of magma beneath the Earth's surface (178)

### L

**lava plateau** raised, flat-topped area made of layers of hardened lava (181)

### M

**metamorphic rock** rock formed from other rocks as a result of intense heat, pressure, or chemical processes (176)

**metamorphism** changing of one type of rock to another by heat, pressure, and chemical processes (187)

### N

**nonfoliated** describing a metamorphic rock without parallel bands (187)

### O

**organic sedimentary rock** rock formed from the remains of organisms (182)

### P

**porphyritic** describing an igneous rock composed of both large and small crystals (178)

### R

**regional metamorphism** metamorphism that affects rocks over large areas during periods of tectonic activity (187)

**rock cycle** series of processes in which rock changes from one type to another and back again (176)

### S

**sediment** fragments that result from the breaking of rocks, minerals, and organic matter (175)

## GLOSSARY

**sedimentary rock** rock formed from hardened deposits of sediment (175)

**sill** sheet of hardened magma that forms between and parallel to layers of rock (181)

**stock** igneous intrusion with an area less than 100 square kilometers (181)

**stratification** layering of sedimentary rock(185)

### ● V

**volcanic neck** solidified central vent of a volcano (181)