

Rock Cycle Loop

Track how rocks change over time.

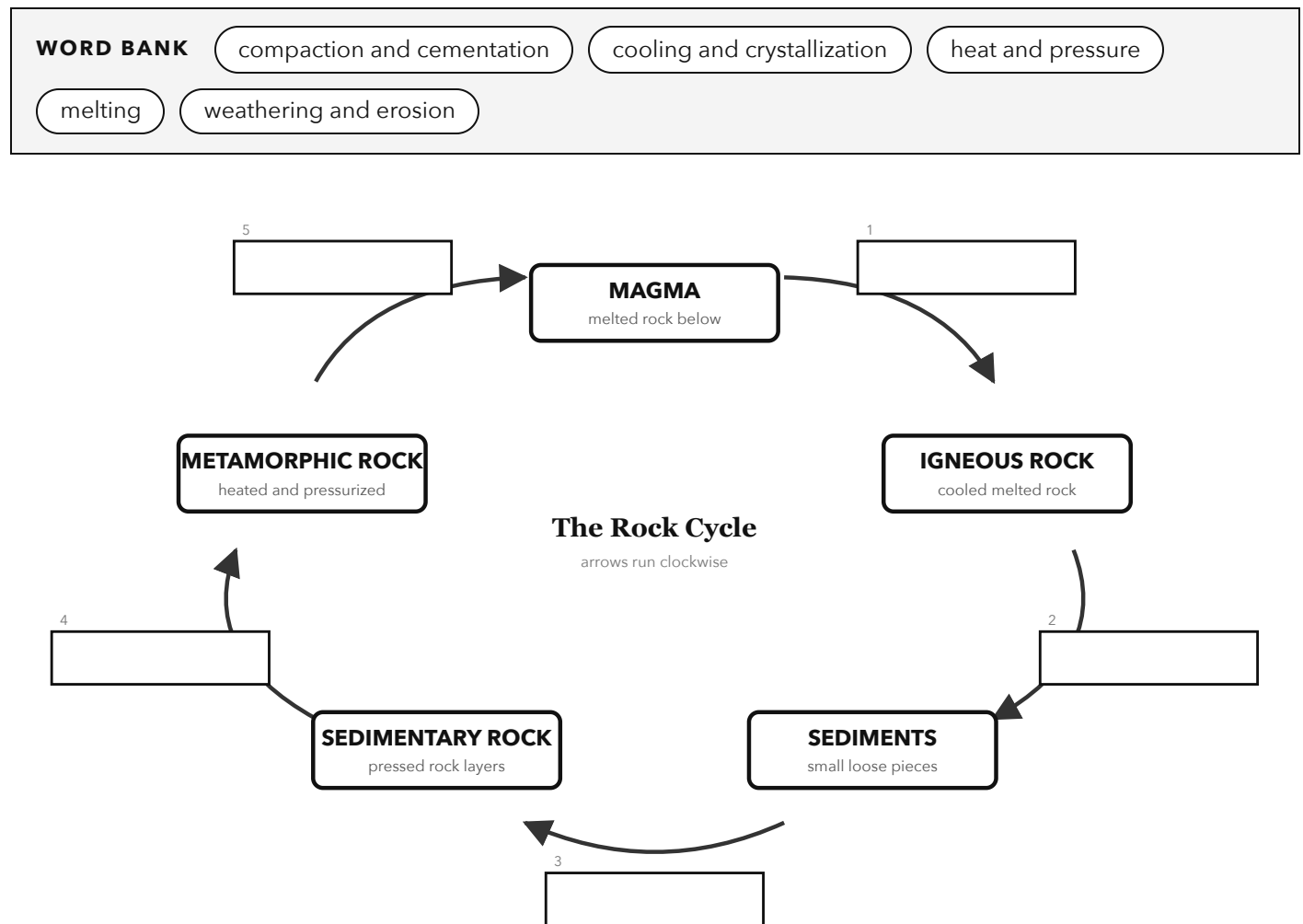
5.8 "The student will investigate and understand that Earth constantly changes. Key ideas include Earth's internal energy causes movement of material within the Earth; plate tectonics describe movement of the crust..."

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 LABEL THE MODEL _____ Word bank below

Write one process from the word bank in each numbered box. Follow the arrows to show how one rock material changes into the next.



2 RUN THE MODEL Use your finished diagram

1 Which process changes sediments into sedimentary rock?

2 What stage comes after igneous rock in this model?

3 Which process returns metamorphic rock to magma?

3 CHECK IT Before you turn it in

☐ I followed each arrow around the loop.

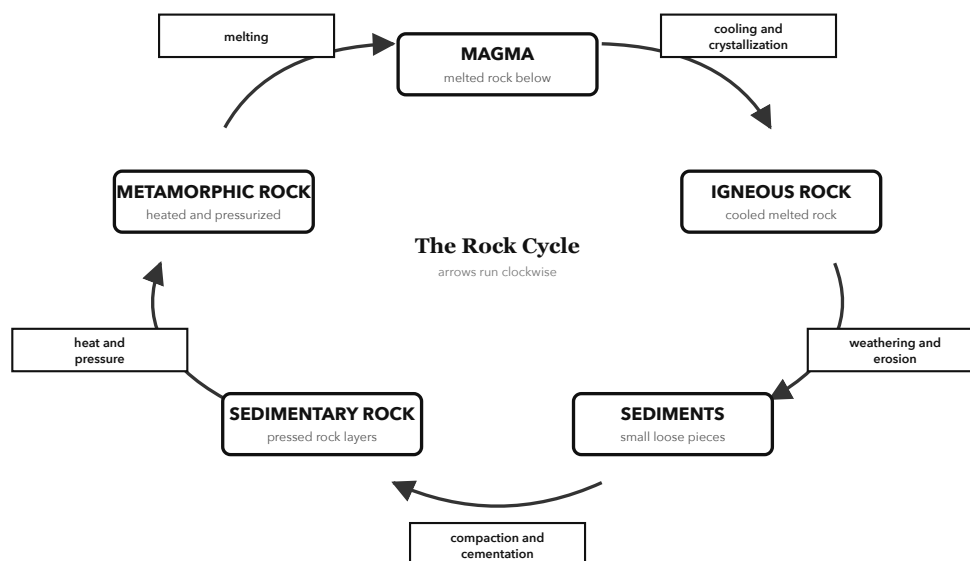
☐ I used each word-bank process once.

☐ I can explain how rocks change.

TEST THE MODEL

What is one way real rocks can change that this single-loop model does not show?

PART 1 • COMPLETED MODEL



PART 2 • RUN THE MODEL

1. **Compaction and cementation.** (Which process changes sediments into sedimentary rock?)
2. **Sediments.** (What stage comes after igneous rock in this model?)
3. **Melting.** (Which process returns metamorphic rock to magma?)

TEST THE MODEL (SAMPLE ANSWERS)

- A rock can be uplifted to Earth's surface before it weathers.
- Some rocks can skip a stage in the model and change in a different path.

Use the processes in arrow order: cooling and crystallization, weathering and erosion, compaction and cementation, heat and pressure, melting. The loop is a simplified rock cycle, since real rocks can follow more than one path.