Sedimentary Rock Identification Flowchart

Saoirse MacKinnon

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CLASTIC, BIOLOGICAL, or CHEMICAL?	GRAIN SIZE CLASS	GENERAL GRAIN COMPOSITION or *Distinguishing Properties*	ROCK NAME
clastic *Made of rock and mineral particles*	**gravel** *> 2 mm*	mostly angular - subangular	**breccia**
		mostly subround - rounded	**conglomerate**
	sand *0.0625 to 2 mm*	mostly quartz sand	**quartz sandstone**
		mostly feldspar sand	**arkose sandstone**
		sand mixed with mud	**greywacke sandstone**
	silt *0.0039 to 0.0625 mm*	*breaks into blocks / layers*	**siltstone**
	clay *< 0.0039 mm*	*splits easily into layers*	**shale**
biological *Made of materials (particles, crystals, etc.) of biological origin*		*black, layered, brittle rock*	**bituminous coal**
		mostly shells	**coquina**
		fossil fragments	**fossiliferous limestone**
		silty microscopic carbonate	**chalk**
chemical	crystalline	dolomite mineral crystals	**dolostone**
		halite mineral crystals	**rock salt**
		gypsum mineral crystals	**rock gypsum**
		ooids (calcite spheres)	**oolitic limestone**
	microcrystalline	varieties of quartz	**chert**