

ROCKS AND MINERALS

Minerals

- Minerals are naturally occurring substances formed by geological processes. They are usually solid and feature a crystal structure as well as specific physical properties and chemical composition.
- Physical properties of minerals include crystal structure, hardness (Mohs scale), lustre (how it reflects light) and color, as well as more complicated properties such as streak, fracture, cleavage and density.
- Mohs scale of hardness measures the ability of minerals to scratch each other. Talc is very soft and is listed as 1, diamond is very hard and is measured as 10.
- A mineral is sometimes made up of just one chemical element but more often it is a compound (mixture) of two or more.
- For example, diamond is made up of just carbon, while fluorite is made up of a compound of calcium and fluorine.
- There are over 4000 different types of minerals.
- Only around 30 of these are commonly found in the Earth's crust.
- Examples of minerals include calcite, gypsum, feldspar, pyrite, gold, quartz and diamond.
- The precious gems ruby and sapphire are varieties of the mineral corundum.

Rocks

- Rocks and stones are naturally occurring solids made up of minerals.
- The Earth's crust is made up of rock.
- Rocks have been used by humans for millions of years, from early tools and weapons through to various construction materials.
- There are three different types of rocks based on the way they form, igneous, sedimentary and metamorphic.
- When magma cools and solidifies it forms igneous rock.
- Examples of igneous rocks include granite, basalt, gabbro, obsidian and pumice. More igneous rock facts.
- Sediment deposited over time, often as layers at the bottom of lakes and oceans, forms sedimentary rocks.
- Examples of sedimentary rocks include sandstone, mudstone, flint, greywacke and chalk. More sedimentary rock facts.
- Extreme pressure and heat over time forms metamorphic rocks.
- Examples of metamorphic rocks include marble, quartzite, schist, granulite and slate. More metamorphic rock facts.
- The metamorphic rock marble is formed from the sedimentary rock limestone.
- The metamorphic rock granulite is formed from the igneous rock basalt.

EXAMPLE OF MINERALS

The Silicates



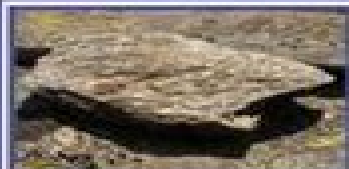
Amazonite

is a beautiful green variety of microcline feldspar. Its chemical formula is KAlSi_3O_8 , potassium aluminum silicate.



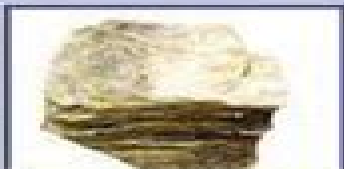
Tanzanite

is a variety of Zoisite. It is valued as a gem stone and has the chemical formula $\text{Ca}_2\text{Al}_2\text{Si}_2\text{O}_{10}(\text{OH})$.



The Mica Group

is the name given to a group of silicate minerals that have silicon and oxygen as their two major components.



Muscovite

is a member of the mica mineral group. It is more important as a rock-forming mineral than as a collectible specimen.



Rocks And Minerals Speedy Study Guide

Roman Wölfel



Rocks And Minerals Speedy Study Guide:

The Enigmatic Realm of **Rocks And Minerals Speedy Study Guide**: Unleashing the Language is Inner Magic

In a fast-paced digital era where connections and knowledge intertwine, the enigmatic realm of language reveals its inherent magic. Its capacity to stir emotions, ignite contemplation, and catalyze profound transformations is nothing lacking extraordinary. Within the captivating pages of **Rocks And Minerals Speedy Study Guide** a literary masterpiece penned by way of a renowned author, readers attempt a transformative journey, unlocking the secrets and untapped potential embedded within each word. In this evaluation, we shall explore the book's core themes, assess its distinct writing style, and delve into its lasting impact on the hearts and minds of those that partake in its reading experience.

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