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# Rocks and Minerals

by Katie Clark



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Look around and you might see a car or a tablet, but you might not even look like a rock or mineral.

Rocks and minerals are everywhere around you and not see them. From bricks in apartment buildings to the salt we put in our food, we use rocks and minerals for many things in life.

Rocks and minerals are everywhere around you and not see them. From bricks in apartment buildings to the salt we put in our food, we use rocks and minerals for many things in life.

Rocks make up the core of our planet, Earth. These include sedimentary, igneous, and metamorphic rocks. They might be found in the rivers, mountains, or valleys. They might be found in the park near your home. Examples of rocks are granite, basalt, limestone, and sandstone.

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We use rocks in many ways. Buildings and roads are often made of types of rocks such as brick or stone. In our houses, we might use granite rock for our counter tops or gemstones in our jewelry. Some gemstones are types of rock while others are considered minerals.

Did you know rocks are made up of minerals? Minerals are elements that occur naturally in the earth and soil. Gold is a mineral. Salt is also a mineral. Water is full of minerals. Over four thousand minerals have been found so far.

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It is importan

rocks and minerals. How are rocks different from minerals? While rocks are solid substances that occur in nature without any chemical composition, minerals are inorganic substances that have a shape and a crystalline structure. Rocks do not have an ordered atomic structure, but minerals do. Minerals are characterized by color, density, hardness, streak, luster, and solubility. Rocks are characterized by mineral and chemical composition, permeability, texture of the constituent particles, and particle size. This

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helps them create new materials that might be useful for safer and stronger buildings. It can help lead to better technologies such as seismic tracking for studying earthquakes. It might help them discover rare types of mineral deposits that can be used in the making of electronics.

The study of minerals can even help scientists understand the healthiest eating methods for living beings. In fact, the human body needs minerals to work properly. Many types of healthy foods have minerals. Our bodies use these minerals to build strong bones

The more we can make our world around us.

erals, the better off we about the world all

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# Rocks and Minerals

1) What makes up the core of our planet?

\_\_\_\_\_

2) Rocks are made up of minerals.

True     False

3) Define the term

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

4) List the propert

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

5) Why does the w

ph 5?

a) To illustrate that minerals make up the entire world

b) To prove minerals are elements that occur naturally in the earth and soil

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# Rocks and Minerals

6) Write each point under "rocks" or "minerals" as appropriate.

They have an ordered atomic structure.

Their color, density, hardness, and streak make them what they are.

Granite, basalt, and limestone are their examples.

They don't have an ordered atomic structure.

They are solid s

chemical comp

Formed by geoc

ound in nature.


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<b>erals</b>