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Crystals are beautiful and people have long been fascinated by their wide variety of shapes. In this exercise, you will make your own crystal shapes. One of the most important properties used to identify and classify a mineral is its hardness. The Mohs hardness scale measures a mineral's hardness using a simple scratch test to see what the mineral can scratch and be scratched by. Minerals can be identified by carefully observing their physical characteristics. You will use all of the descriptions to determine the type of mineral. There are three main types of rocks; igneous, metamorphic, and sedimentary. Use these three terms to answer the questions on this page. Describes brightness of the light reflected from a mineral's surface. Rocks can change from one type into another due to heat, pressure, and weathering. Soil and earth can have several layers and each has different structures and organisms. Look at the diagram of a soil profile pictured below. Move those rocks around in one spot. This is the process that transforms rocks from one form to another. Complete the rock cycle below using the word bank. Erosion is the washing away of soil and rocks. Erosion can be minimized by plant life. The roots of the plants grow deep into the soil and prevent movement on the surface. Rocks are classified according to how they are formed. Igneous is formed when hot molten forms cools and hardens. Sedimentary rocks are formed when very small pieces of it settle and harden. Metamorphic types are formed by adding heat and pressure to igneous and sedimentary forms. What is the difference between rocks and minerals? What does each picture tell us about how rock is formed? Identify the type of igneous rock that belongs in each box. Draw a picture of 3 igneous rocks and explain how each one is used. Identify the type of metamorphic rock that belongs in each box. These are all formed under high levels of heat. What are metamorphic rocks and how are they formed? Choose 3 rocks from the provided collection. Make sure each it looks completely different. Find how hard your rock is by performing the following tests. Is this rock igneous, metamorphic, or sedimentary? Used what you have learned to determine this. Place rock in a cup of vinegar. Describe what happens. You will have a series thoughts to better uderstand what you are looking at. You will answer questions such as: Is the rock magnetic? Identify the type of sedimentary rock that belongs in each box. What are sedimentary rocks and how are they formed? You see, the Earth is pretty awesome. From ordinary volcanic rocks like granite to priceless jewels used in jewelry, it is home to various rocks and minerals that are much more complicated than meets the eye. The different types of rocks and minerals are sedimentary, igneous, and metamorphic. These rocks form under specific conditions such as melting, cooling, erosion, compaction, or deformation. On the other hand, minerals can be divided into metallic and non-metallic based on their composition. How do we differentiate rocks and minerals, and how do we classify them? This article will help you discover the difference between a rock and a mineral and closely examine their various types. Minerals vs. Rocks A mineral is a substance with unique chemical and physical properties, composition, and structure, whereas a rock is a solid collection of various minerals. Rocks are typically composed of two or more minerals combined through various geological processes. So, minerals are the building blocks of rocks. The Different Types of Rocks The three types of rock - sedimentary, igneous, and metamorphic are classified based on their physical properties, chemistry, and origin. Igneous Molten rock (lava or magma) crystallizes and hardens to produce igneous rocks. The melt starts below the Earth near hot areas or active plate borders before rising to the surface. Because heat transforms minerals into igneous rocks, these formations are usually very dense and shiny. Sedimentary Sedimentary rocks are broken pieces of other rocks that have been worn down by erosion and weathering. As these small pieces find new homes in new places, they settle in and pack down to form a solid stone with many layers. These rocks often contain sand, silt, dead plants, and animal bones. Metamorphic Other types of rocks transform into metamorphic rocks due to high heat or pressure, or more typically, a combination of both. Check out this article from the American Museum of Natural History to learn more about the three types of rocks and how they look. How Rocks Are Formed: The Rock Cycle Any rock may transform into any other type of rock, though this process typically takes a long time. Some transformations take place above or below the Earth's surface. The rock cycle refers to the sequence of natural processes transforming a rock. Rock can change through three major processes: Cooling and Crystallization. The Earth's interior is hot enough to produce magma or goey molten rock. As this magma makes its way back up to the earths crust, it cools, forming the crystalline structures that make up igneous rocks. Weathering and Erosion. Rocks erode over time as wind, ice, plants, and animals wear them down. These influences can eventually split rocks into sediment - which looks like dirt or sand. Then, glaciers, wind, and moving water move these bits from one place to another in a process called erosion. Sedimentation. At some point, the sediments are dropped or deposited. This process is called sedimentation. The sediments may then be pressed and cemented together, forming sedimentary rock. Metamorphism. Metamorphism is the transformation within a body of rock due to high pressure and high temperature. As pressure and temperature rise, new metamorphic rocks can form from old ones. The Different Types of Minerals Now that we know about the different types of rocks and the Rock Cycle let's learn about the different kinds of minerals. Minerals are classified based on their crystal form and chemistry. They are divided into two types: metallic and non-metallic. Metallic Minerals Metallic minerals are minerals composed of at least one metal. These often occur as mineral deposits and are excellent conductors of heat and electricity. Iron, copper, gold, silver, etc., are some common metallic minerals. Non-Metallic Minerals Non-metallic minerals are those minerals that do not contain any metals. Diamonds, mica, salt, potash, clay, and dolomite are non-metallic minerals. Since these minerals dont include metal, they are usually more brittle and breakable than metallic minerals. Conclusion There are three categories of rocks based on their origin and characteristics: sedimentary, igneous, and metamorphic, and two types of minerals based on their composition: metallic and non-metallic. However, there is still much to learn about rocks and minerals. Going outside or looking at images of different rocks and minerals is the best way to learn more about this fascinating topic. Just take a second look at the rocks around you, and you'll open your eyes to the incredible variety in the natural world! 0 ratings0% found this document useful (0 votes)1K viewsThis document contains a rocks and minerals unit test with multiple choice and matching questions about the properties and types of rocks. It tests knowledge about igneous, sedimentary, and AI-enhanced title and descriptionSaveSave Rocks & Minerals- Unit Test (Answer Key) For Later0%0% found this document useful, undefined

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