

## EarthComm Earth's Natural Resources: Mineral Resources and Your Community Activity 2

### This investigation will help you to:

- Types of Minerals
- The Chemistry and Structure of Minerals
- Identifying Minerals
- To learn more about metallic and nonmetallic mineral resources, visit the following web site:

#### Types of Minerals

- "Minerals by Name" - The Mineral Gallery  
Site includes full color images of different minerals along with a description of the physical properties, history of discovery, and more about each mineral.
- "What Is a Mineral?" - UCAR  
This site explains what a mineral is. Click on the different links to find out about the different mineral types, how minerals are formed, and what the physical properties of minerals are.
- "Minerals by Physical and Optical Properties" - Mineral Database  
Minerals are listed according to hardness, streak, luster, density, and cleavage and fracture. Click on the property to view mineral list. You can then click on individual minerals to view more information and images.

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#### The Chemistry and Structure of Minerals

- "Minerals" - Volcano World  
This site gives a brief overview of minerals. Includes illustrations to show some of the basic atomic arrangements of different minerals. Also explains how atomic arrangement influences the properties of a mineral.
- "Minerals by Chemical Composition" - Mineral Database  
Site displays a periodic table. Click on the element of interest to open a page that lists all of the minerals that contain that element, sorted by element percent.
- "Mineral Structure Data" - University of Colorado  
This site lists the different crystal structures of minerals. Click on link to open a new page that uses a drawing to show the structure.

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#### Identifying Minerals

- "The Physical Characteristics of Minerals" - The Mineral Gallery  
Site lists the physical properties scientists commonly use to identify minerals. Click on property to view examples that

illustrate that property.

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