

Reading Guide

Rocks and Minerals

This worksheet refers to 'Qld Junior Science' website. Read the notes entitled 'Rocks and Minerals' before answering these questions.

Overview

1. All rocks are divided into 3 types. What are these?
2. Igneous rocks are of 2 types. What are these?

Sedimentary Rocks

3. Look at the table. What sort of information does it show?
4. What particles make up conglomerate rock? What would this rock look like?
5. What are sedimentary rocks made of?
6. What is the name of the cementing chemical that holds the particles together?

Igneous Rocks

7. The word 'igneous' comes from the Latin root meaning 'fire'. What's an everyday word that begins with 'ignit-' and has something to do with fire?
8. In ancient Roman times, Pluto was the god of the underworld, a place like hell. Vulcan was the god of fire. Read the notes about 'Plutonic Rocks' and 'Volcanic Rocks'. Where are these rocks formed?
9. Pumicestone is a rock that floats in the waterway near Bribie Island near Brisbane. Why does this rock float?

Metamorphic Rocks

10. The 'morph-' part of this word means 'shape'. These rocks have changed from other types of rocks. Look at the table and write down the original rock that changed into quartzite.
11. Were all metamorphic rocks originally sedimentary?
12. Rocks are very hard and solid. What major factors caused the changes in these rocks?

Identifying Minerals

13. Find out what 'identify' means. Please identify yourself.
14. Look at the headings such as 'Colour'. What other features used to identify minerals?
15. What's another word for 'shiny'?
16. Read the notes about 'Colour' and 'Streak'. What's the difference between them?
17. A broken bone is said to be fractured. What would a scientist do to a mineral if he was looking at its fracture?
18. How does a geologist test if a rock is hard?

Moh's Scale of Hardness

19. Does number 1 or number 10 on this scale mean the hardest mineral?
20. Either rocks are made of minerals, or minerals are made of rocks. Which is correct?