

Objectives

- Identify the characteristics of minerals.
- Explain how minerals are classified into groups.
- Identify characteristics of mineral groups.

The BIG Idea

- Minerals are basic building blocks of earth.

Key Concepts

- Minerals have four characteristics.
- Minerals are grouped according to composition.

Minerals have four characteristics

1. What are the four characteristics of a mineral? _____

2. A rock is not considered a mineral because it doesn't have all of the characteristics of a mineral. What characteristics do minerals have that rocks do not have? _____
3. What are all minerals formed by? _____
4. What is a solid? _____
5. What is volume? _____
6. What is definite chemical makeup? _____

7. What does it mean to say two elements are bonded? _____
8. What is a crystal? _____
9. How can two minerals have the same chemical composition but be different minerals (like graphite and diamond)? _____
10. Why are perfect crystals rare? _____

Minerals are grouped according to composition.

11. How do scientists classify minerals into groups? _____

12. What is the most common group? _____

13. Which two elements are found in that mineral group? _____
14. How many different minerals are common in the earth? _____
15. Silicates make up what percent of the rocks in the crust? _____
16. What are three some minerals that are silicates? _____
17. What is the second most common group of rock-forming minerals called?

18. What two elements are always found in this group? _____
19. What is a common mineral of this group? _____
20. Which mineral group is economically useful to humans? _____
21. What type of element do we find in this group? _____

In the space below, please write down any questions you have. If you are confused about something, want to know more about something, or need more information, please write it in the space below and share it with the class!