

Mineral Characteristics Part 1

- Purpose:** To see what we already know about minerals.
- Problem:** What are the four observable characteristics of minerals?
- Research:** Scientists have agreed that there are five characteristics all minerals have in common. If an object has all these characteristics, then it is considered a mineral.
- Hypothesis:** There will be no hypothesis for this lab as we are only observing; we are not testing!
- Procedure:**
1. Check your materials: 4 minerals.
 2. For each mineral, record at least four qualitative observations. You may list them; they do not need to be in a sentence. You may pick up the minerals, but please put them back in the correct spot.
 3. Record your observations in your data table.
- Data:** Record any data from the lab in the table below.

Mineral 1	Mineral 2
Mineral 3	Mineral 4

Clean-up
Procedure:

1. Ensure the minerals are in the correct spot on the tray.
2. Rinse your hands to remove any mineral particles.

Analysis &
Results:

In the space below answer the following questions.

1. Did you make any observations that were the same for two, three, or four of the minerals? If so, what were they? _____

2. Which of your qualitative observations seem to be the least helpful? *Example, color is not a good observation to see if an object is a mineral.* _____

Conclusion:

What four characteristics do you think all minerals have in common?

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

Name _____

Period _____

Date _____

Mineral 1	Mineral 2
<p><i>Record your observations on your lab sheet.</i></p> <p><i>Put the mineral back in the same spot when you are done.</i></p>	<p><i>Record your observations on your lab sheet.</i></p> <p><i>Put the mineral back in the same spot when you are done.</i></p>
Mineral 3	Mineral 4
<p><i>Record your observations on your lab sheet.</i></p> <p><i>Put the mineral back in the same spot when you are done.</i></p>	<p><i>Record your observations on your lab sheet.</i></p> <p><i>Put the mineral back in the same spot when you are done.</i></p>

Mineral 1	Mineral 2
<p><i>Record your observations on your lab sheet.</i></p> <p><i>Put the mineral back in the same spot when you are done.</i></p>	<p><i>Record your observations on your lab sheet.</i></p> <p><i>Put the mineral back in the same spot when you are done.</i></p>
Mineral 3	Mineral 4
<p><i>Record your observations on your lab sheet.</i></p> <p><i>Put the mineral back in the same spot when you are done.</i></p>	<p><i>Record your observations on your lab sheet.</i></p> <p><i>Put the mineral back in the same spot when you are done.</i></p>