

Vocabulary

Study the vocabulary words and definitions below.

cleavage the tendency of a mineral to break along a smooth or flat surface

conglomerates rocks composed of rounded fragments varying from small pebbles to large boulders in a cement

crystal a solid shape in which the atoms are arranged in a definite pattern forming flat faces

extrusive igneous rocks that cool on Earth's surface

fracture the tendency of a mineral to break along a jagged, uneven, or curved surface

fragmental rocks the first group of the formation of sedimentary rocks made from pieces or fragments of rocks

gems rare, precious, or semiprecious minerals

igneous rock a rock formed after magma has cooled

inorganic materials that do not contain carbon and have never lived

Vocabulary

intrusive	igneous rocks that cool below Earth's surface
lava	melted rock (magma) on the surface of Earth
luster	the reflecting qualities of a material; its shine or surface appearance
magma	melted (hot liquid) rock found inside Earth
metallic minerals	minerals that have a shiny appearance and are good conductors of heat and electricity
metals	minerals that conduct heat and electricity; have shine
metamorphic rock	an igneous or sedimentary rock that has been changed by heat and pressure
mineral	an inorganic substance with a definite chemical formula and specific shape
mineralogist	a scientist who studies and identifies minerals
Mohs' scale	a scale used to test the hardness of a mineral
nonmetallic minerals	minerals without metal, with no shine

Vocabulary

- nonmetals** minerals that do not conduct heat or electricity; have no shine
- ore** a rock or mineral from which metals and nonmetals can be removed in usable amounts
- organic**..... materials formed from the remains of plants and animals
- rock** a solid material made of one or more minerals
- rock cycle** continuous change of rocks from one form to another
- sediment** small pieces of rock
- sedimentary rock** rock made up of several layers of sediment cemented together
- specific gravity** the ratio or relationship between the mass of the mineral and the mass of an equal volume of water