

Quick Vocabulary

Lesson 1

crystal solid chemical substance with a regular, repeating arrangement of its atoms

crystallization when particles dissolved in a liquid solidify to form crystals

dissolve to dispense or disappear in solution

ion an atom or group of atoms with an electric charge

lava molten rock that erupts onto Earth's surface

magma molten rock material under Earth's surface

mineral naturally occurring inorganic solid with definite chemical composition and orderly arrangement of atoms

silicate member of the mineral group that has silicon and oxygen in its crystal structure

Lesson 2

cleavage property of minerals that break with smooth, flat surfaces

density mass divided by volume (g/cm^3)

fracture property of minerals that break to form uneven surfaces

hardness resistance of a mineral to being scratched

luster way a mineral absorbs or reflects light at its surface

mineralogist scientist who studies the distribution of minerals, mineral properties, and their uses

streak color of a mineral in powdered form

Quick Vocabulary

Lesson 3

gemstone rare and attractive mineral that can be worn as jewelry

ore rock that contains high concentrations of a desired substance, such as a metal, and can be mined for profit