# Identifying Minerals

5.3

# Videos

- http://www.watchknowlearn.org/Video.aspx?VideoID=51659&CategoryID=2427
- http://www.watchknowlearn.org/Video.aspx?VideoID=51660&CategoryID=2427
- http://www.pbs.org/video/2365643312/

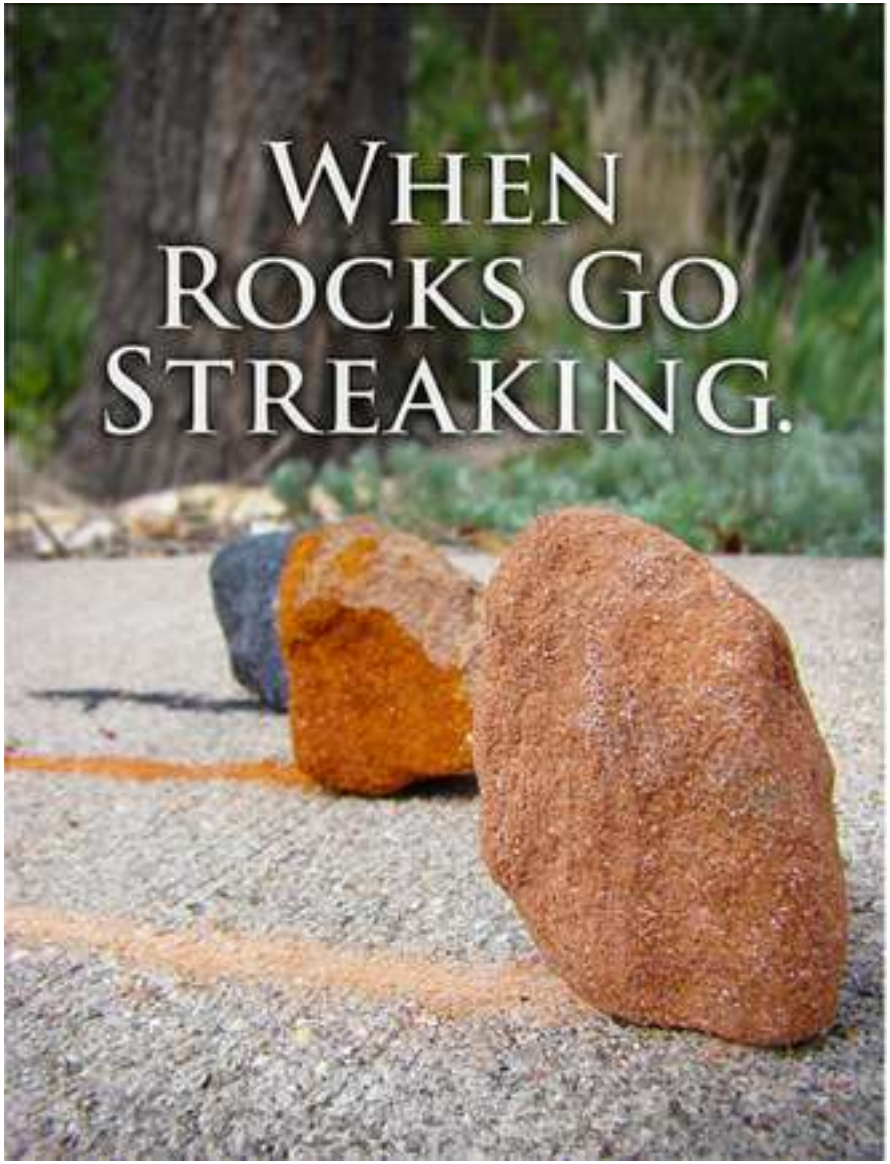
# Color

- Not the most accurate

# Luster

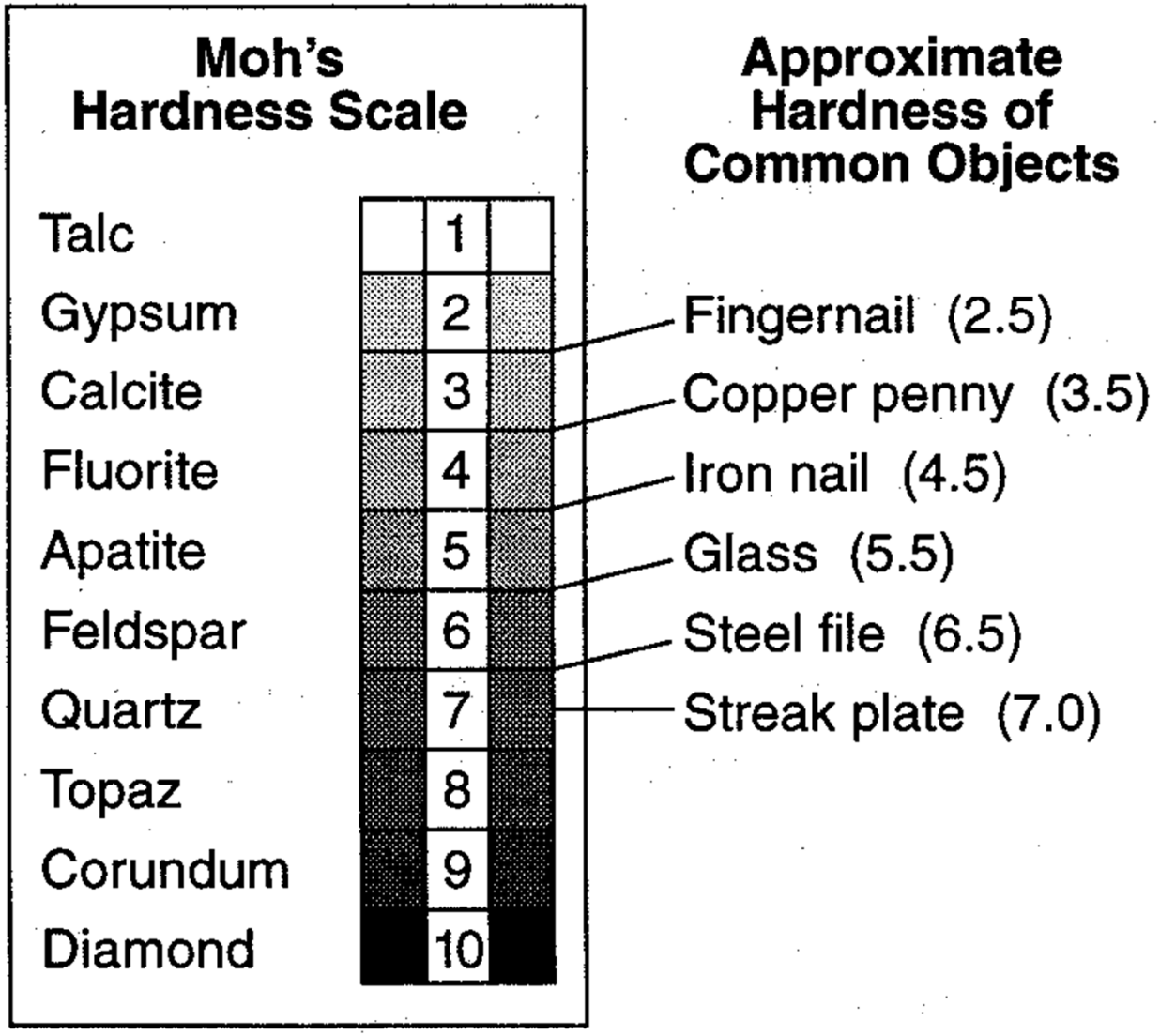
- The way light interacts with the surface of a crystal, rock, or mineral
- Typically divided into metallic and non-metallic

# Streak

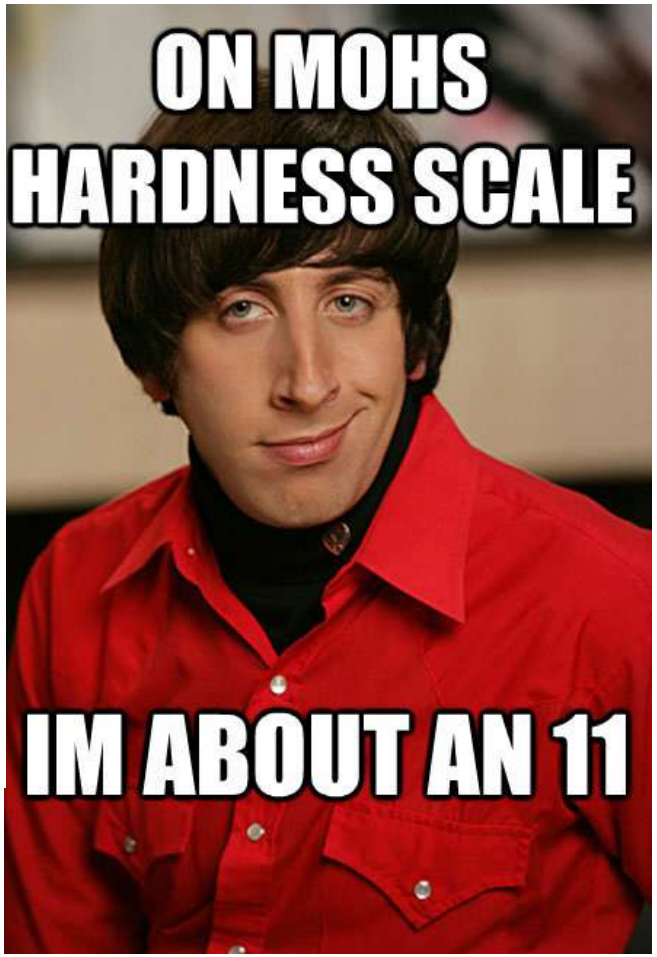



the color of the powder produced when it is dragged across an un-weathered surface (typically a ceramic plate)

# MINERAL HARDNESS




The ease with which the surface of a mineral can be scratched



# Specific Gravity

- Similar to the Density of a mineral
- Weight of a mineral compared to the weight of an equal mass of water

# Cleavage

The tendency of a mineral to break along flat planar surfaces as determined by the structure of its crystal lattice


# Fracture

The way a mineral breaks other than along a cleavage plane.

# Exit Ticket 1/11

- What do you think is the most reliable way to identify a mineral?
- What about the least?
- How would you rank them in terms of what order would be most efficient for accurately identifying a mineral.

- http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/nova/earth/life-rocky-start.html

# Mineral Groups

- Silicates –more than 90 percent of the minerals in earth's crust are silicates.
- Carbonates
- Oxides
- Sulfides
- Composition, subcategories, basic building block, at least 2 examples, properties, common uses