Minerals Vocab.

Mineral- A substance that has all of the four following features:

1. Found in nature/ occur naturally

2. Has the same chemical makeup wherever it is found

 The atoms in a mineral are arranged in a regular pattern, and form solid units called crystals (Crystalline Structure)
Are inorganic, meaning they are not living nor are they formed from anything that was ever alive

hardness- measure of how easily a mineral can be scratched

Mohs Scale of Hardness- A scale that rates minerals from 1 (softest) to 10 (hardest).

Scratch Test- using common materials (such as a copper penny, steel nail, or your fingernail) to test the hardness of minerals

Streak- the color of the powder left behind when a mineral is rubbed on a piece of unglazed tile.

Luster- the way a mineral reflects light, may be metallic or nonmetallic, minerals with metallic luster shine like a metal (such as gold). Minerals with nonmetallic luster may look glassy, dull and clay-like.

Fracture- minerals that do not split cleanly, but break into pieces with irregular surfaces

Cleavage- the splitting of a mineral into pieces that have flat surfaces

Fluorescence- a mineral that glows under ultraviolet light

Crystal Shape- minerals are always a solid with its atoms arranged in a certain repeating pattern

Gem- valuable, high priced minerals

Rock Cycle Vocab.

Igneous rock- formed when melted rock hardens

Magma- melted rock within the Earth

Crystallization- cooler temperatures cause magma to harden into rock

Intrusive rock- magma that has cooled underground, deep within the Earth's crust

Extrusive rock- magma that has cooled on the Earth's surface

Lava- magma that is exposed at Earth's surface

Sedimentary rock- formed when layers of sediment settle over time and bind together.

Sediment- bits of rock carved by wind, water, or ice

Clastic sedimentary rocks- form when rock is broken into smaller pieces through weathering and builds up, water deposits minerals in the spaces between the particles. These minerals bind the layers together and they are then pressed and cemented together to form rock.

Chemical sedimentary rocks- form when chemicals in water come out of the water and form solids (usually happens when water that contains a large amount of a solid compound evaporates and leaves the solid behind)

Lithifaction - compacting and cementing sediments together

Metamorphic rock- made from igneous or sedimentary rock that has been changed by pressure, high temperature, very hot water, or a combination of these factors.

Metamorphism – the process by which metamorphic rock is formed.