

“Mining, Who needs it?” exercise

Object: Match the mineral sample with the product.

At each station, place several mineral samples in one pile and corresponding consumer products in another. It is better to have different samples at each station. Geologists are excused from participation.

Allow a certain amount of time, three (3) to five (5) minutes for each group to match the mineral sample with the product. At the end of the time allotment, the instructor visits each station and reviews with the class each sample and its matching product. The group with the most correct matches may be given a prize

SOME SUGGESTED MINERAL SAMPLES AND PRODUCTS:

Halite = salt
Copper Ore = pennies, copper tubing and wire
Bauxite = aluminum
Gypsum = wallboard
Clay = coffee mug, makeup
Trona = baking soda
Kaoline Clay = toothpast, makeup, paper
Magnetite = magnets, nails, bolts
Sulphur = matches
Calcite = tums, rollaids
Graphite = lead
Phosphate = fertilizer, fizz in soda