Introduction

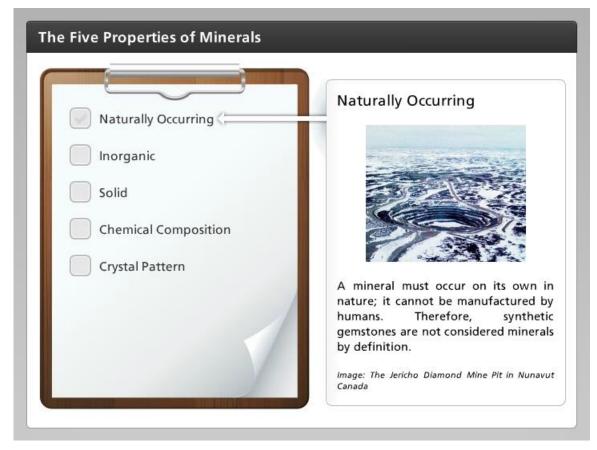
| Naturally Occurring | Introduction |
|----------------------|---|
| Inorganic | The Five |
| Solid | Properties of Minerals |
| Chemical Composition | Minercis |
| Crystal Pattern | In Earth science, a mineral has a ver specific definition. In order for substance to be classified as a minera it must adhere to five characteristic Click on each of the checkboxes t learn about these five characteristics. |
| | Click on each of the check |

In Earth science, a mineral has a very specific definition. In order for a substance to be classified as a mineral, it must adhere to five characteristics. Click on each of the checkboxes to learn about these five characteristics.

Image: The mineral peridot



Naturally Occurring



A mineral must occur on its own in nature; it cannot be manufactured by humans. Therefore, synthetic gemstones are not considered minerals by definition.

Image: The Jericho Diamond Mine Pit in Nunavut Canada



Inorganic

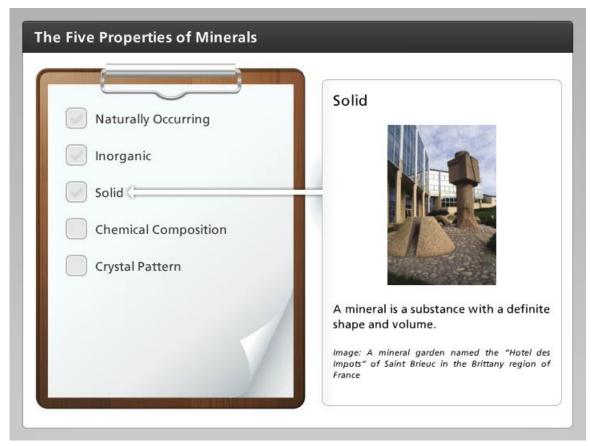
| - | Inorganic |
|----------------------|--|
| Naturally Occurring | All the second sec |
| Inorganic | |
| Solid | |
| Chemical Composition | |
| Crystal Pattern | A mineral is non-living and is not made of any living materials. Halite |
| | is an example of the mineral salt. |
| | Salt is inorganic. Sugar is an organic compound and is not a |
| | mineral. Sugar originates from |

A mineral is non-living and is not made of any living materials. Halite is an example of the mineral salt. Salt is inorganic. Sugar is an organic compound and is not a mineral. Sugar originates from sugar cane, a plant, so it is organic and does not fit the definition of a mineral.

Image: A salt pond at Pedra Lume in the island country of Cape Verde



Solid



A mineral is a substance with a definite shape and volume.

Image: A mineral garden named the "Hotel des Impots" of Saint Brieuc in the Brittany region of France



Chemical Composition

| Naturally Occurring Inorganic Solid Chemical Composition Crystal Pattern | Chemical Composition A mineral can be expressed with specific chemical formula. Minerals ca be made of a single element, or sever elements in a compound. Image: The chemical formula for a mineral can be simple, as seen in the formula for hematite, or extremely complicated, as seen in the formula for Muscovite |
|--|--|
| | Hematite: Fe ₂ O ₃ Muscovite: KAI ₂ (Si ₃ AI)O ₁₀ (OH,F) ₂ |

A mineral can be expressed with a specific chemical formula. Minerals can be made of a single element, or several elements in a compound.

Image: The chemical formula for a mineral can be simple, as seen in the formula for hematite, or extremely complicated, as seen in the formula for Muscovite



Crystal Pattern

| Naturally Occurring | Crystal Pattern |
|----------------------|---|
| Inorganic | Gette |
| Solid | State - |
| Chemical Composition | 100 |
| Crystal Pattern | |
| | Minerals crystallize or grow in an |
| | orderly and repetitive manner. The pattern is easily seen when a |
| | mineral is broken into pieces. The |
| | mineral halite is cubic. |
| | Image: The cubic crystal pattern of halite easily seen by inspecting a sample of t |

Minerals crystallize or grow in an orderly and repetitive manner. The pattern is easily seen when a mineral is broken into pieces. The mineral halite is cubic.

Image: The cubic crystal pattern of halite is easily seen by inspecting a sample of the mineral

