Introduction

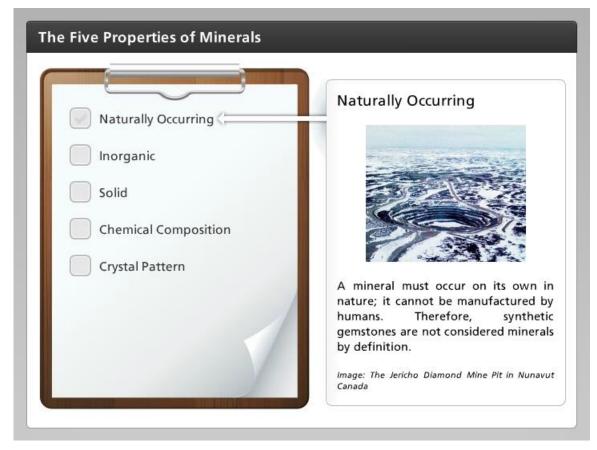
Naturally Occurring	Introduction
Inorganic	The Five
Solid	Properties of Minerals
Chemical Composition	Minercis
Crystal Pattern	In Earth science, a mineral has a ver specific definition. In order for substance to be classified as a minera it must adhere to five characteristic Click on each of the checkboxes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

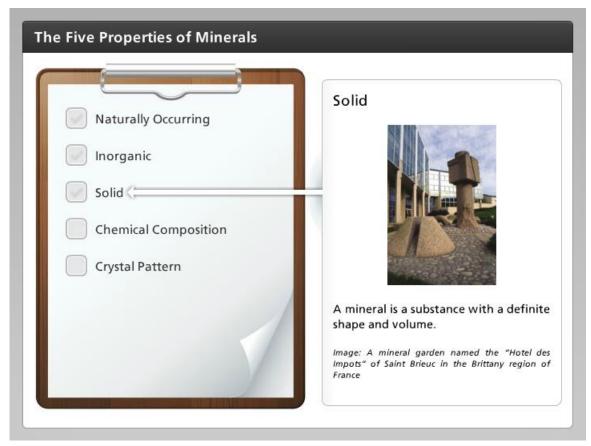
-	Inorganic
Naturally Occurring	All the second sec
Inorganic	
Solid	
Chemical Composition	
Crystal Pattern	A mineral is non-living and is not made of any living materials. Halite
	is an example of the mineral salt.
	Salt is inorganic. Sugar is an organic compound and is not a
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A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

