Review: Matter

- · What are the states of matter?
 - Solid, liquid, gas, plasma
- What are the smallest units of matter that retain unique characteristics?
 - Elements atoms
- · What are elements made of?
 - One type of atom only



- What are compounds?
 - Two or more elements combined to form a unique substance
- Minerals are a type of compound. What makes them different from other compounds?
 - Solid, natural, inorganic, crystalline

Review: Matter

- · What is a rock?
 - A solid mixture of two or more minerals or other substances (but mostly minerals)





Properties of Minerals

- · Identifying Minerals
 - Geologists have identified over 3,000 minerals, each with unique properties
- How can we identify these different minerals from each other? Properties!
 - Color: color of mineral
 - Streak: color of mineral's powder
 - Luster: how light reflects off mineral
 - Density: mass over volume
 - Hardness: how hard is mineral
 - Crystal system: what shape are crystals
 - Cleavage/fracture: how mineral breaks
 - Special properties: flourescent, magnetic, reacts with acid, etc



How Minerals Form

- · Minerals can form from a hot solution of . . .
 - Magma or lava!
 - Water!
- What is a solution?
 - a mixture with one substance dissolved into another
- · As solution (magma, lava, water) cools, minerals begin to form crystals. This is called . . .
 - Crystallization

How Minerals Form

- Minerals can also from from water solutions by evaporation. What?
 - water evaporates, leaves mineral crystals behind



Uses of Minerals



- Gemstones:
- Hard, colorful mineral with a brilliant or glassy luster
- Mostly for jewelry, but also for mechanical parts and for grinding/polishing
- Gem: a cut gemstone
- Metals:
 - Metals are <u>ductile</u> (can be stretched, hammered, spun into wire), also often <u>conductive</u> to electricity and heat
 - We make all sorts of tools and objects out of metals
- · And many other uses!
 - Medicines, food, cosmetics, fertilizers, building materials

Uses of Minerals

- · Why is mining important to society?
 - Without mining, we could not make all of the things we use that contain minerals
- Why is mining controversial, how can it be dangerous or damaging?
 - Dangerous job for miners
 - Pollutes the environment, damages landscape
 - Mining of <u>conflict minerals</u> encourages human rights abuses

Uses of Minerals

- Ore
 - Rock that contains a useful metal or other minera
- Prospecting
 - Searching for ore deposits
- Mining
- Removing ore from the ground
- Smelting
- Separating useful minerals from the rock, usually by melting
- · Alloy
 - A man-made solid mixture of two or more elements, at least one of which is a metal