

Industrial Minerals Around the House

Title: **Industrial Minerals Around the House**

Level: **K-12**

Day/Time:

[Academic Expectations](#)

[Core Content for Assessment:](#)

Objective:

The purpose of this exercise is to show students how many minerals we use in our everyday life.

Activity:

See how many minerals, which make up the common household items (listed below) you know!

Background Information:

Item Minerals Needed to Produce Them

Carpet *Calcium carbonate, limestone*

Glass/Ceramics *Silica sand, limestone, talc, lithium, borates, soda ash, feldspar*

Linoleum *Calcium carbonate, clay, wollastonite*

Glossy paper *Kaolin clay, limestone, sodium sulfate, lime, soda ash, titanium dioxide*

Cake/Bread *Gypsum, phosphates*

Plant fertilizers *Potash, phosphate, nitrogen, sulfur*

Toothpaste *Calcium carbonate, limestone, sodium carbonate, fluorine*

Lipstick *Calcium carbonate, talc*

Baby powder *Talc*

Hair cream *Calcium carbonate*

Counter tops *Titanium dioxide, calcium carbonate, aluminum hydrate*

Household cleaners *Silica, pumice, diatomite, feldspar, limestone*

Industrial Minerals Around the House

Caulking *Limestone, gypsum*

Jewelry *Precious and semi-precious stones*

Kitty litter *Attapulgite, montmorillonite, zeolites, diatomite, pumice, volcanic ash*

Fiberglass roofing *Silica, borates, limestone, soda ash, feldspar*

Potting soil *Vermiculite, perlite, gypsum, zeolites, peat*

Paint *Titanium dioxide, kaolin clays, calcium carbonate, mica, talc, silica, wollastonite*

Concrete *Limestone, gypsum, iron oxide, clay*

Wallboard *Gypsum, clay, perlite, vermiculite, aluminum hydrate, borates*

Spackling *Gypsum, mica, clay, calcium carbonate*

Pencil *Graphite, clay*

Carbon paper *Bentonite, zeolite*

Ink *Calcium carbonate*

Microwavable container *Talc, calcium carbonate, titanium dioxide, clay*

Sports equipment *Graphite, fiberglass*

Pots and pans *Aluminum, iron*

Optical fibers *Glass*

Fruit juice *Perlite, diatomite*

Sugar *Limestone, lime*

Drinking water *Limestone, lime, salt, fluorite*

Vegetable oil *Clay, perlite, diatomite*

Medicines *Calcium carbonate, magnesium, dolomite, kaolin, barium, iodine, sulfur, lithium*

Porcelain figurines *Silica, limestone, borates, soda ash, gypsum*

Industrial Minerals Around the House

Television *35 different minerals*

Automobile *15 different minerals*

Telephone *42 different minerals*

Discussion:

Does your state produce any of the minerals listed above?

How do we get the minerals we need for the products we use in our everyday lives?

Adapted from materials provided by Women In Mining