

Activity Ideas for Minerals and Energy Lessons

The Arts

- Create a 'mine' diorama
- Make a pet rock
- Generate a picture collage of everyday products which contain minerals
- Construct papier-mâché miners' hard hats
- Design and create a class mural of a mine site
- Create mining scene skits and perform to class
- Work in teams to create 'human' mine machines

English

- Write a recipe for rock cakes
- Read story from 'Magic School Bus Inside the Earth'
- Read and discuss non fiction books on mining and minerals
- Create a word bank of mining and mineral words
- Create and illustrate a minerals dictionary
- Write a description of your pet rock
- Study different careers in the minerals industry
- Design a newspaper advertisement for a mining job
- Write up a job application for an advertised mining job

Health and PE

- Bury spray painted gold rocks in sand pit and excavate using various mining equipment
- Examine and discuss mine safety signs and safety equipment
- Conduct a mines safety rescue competition
- Discuss food containing minerals
- Study importance of minerals in our bodies
- Design healthy meals for miners working shift work

Maths

- Measure ingredients to make rock cakes
- Investigate and graph daily prices of resources
- Calculate your weight in gold
- Graph percentages of resources produced in Western Australia
- Weigh and record weight of rock samples
- Spray paint rock samples gold, weigh and calculate their value as if they were real gold.

Science

- Study the Rock Cycle
- Study the formation of different rock types: sedimentary, igneous and metamorphic
- Make igneous, sedimentary and metamorphic rocks
- Study and make fossils
- Make a rock and mineral collection
- Complete rock observations
- Identify and classify rock samples
- Grow crystals
- Research physical and chemical characteristics of minerals
- Pan for gold
- Study exploration techniques
- Research extraction and processing methods
- Investigate mining and the environment

Society and Environment

- Map WA/Australian mining towns
- Map mine locations in WA/Australia
- Research history of mining towns
- Research history of mining in WA/Australia and create a timeline
- Research history of gold mining in WA/Australia
- Brainstorm uses of the environment
- Study Environmental concerns and environmental management
- Research the mine rehabilitation process
- List everyday items that contain minerals
- Research famous people in mining
- Research renewable energy

Technology and Enterprise

- Make a model of an underground or open cut mine
- Make a pet rock
- Investigate machinery that pull, push and lift
- Design and create mine machines
- Design and make safety equipment
- Search the Web to find and record minerals/mining information
- Design a way to keep the community informed with up to date mining activities