

Rocky Minero

ACTIVITY 2

Objective:

To understand that mineral deposits are limited and distributed unevenly around the Earth. Students will become familiar with locations of major mineral resources in the United States.

Vocabulary:

metallic, non-metallic, reserves

Materials:

- *Rocky Minero* song
- One copy of map and question sheet for each student

Check for Understanding:

Have each student write a paragraph naming six to eight mineral resources that can be found and identified at home or in the classroom. Next, have students locate the nearest source of those minerals according to their maps.

Extensions:

Obtain a map of your state's major mineral deposits from the Geological Survey Office or Department of Natural Resources in your state. Have your students research uses for those minerals.

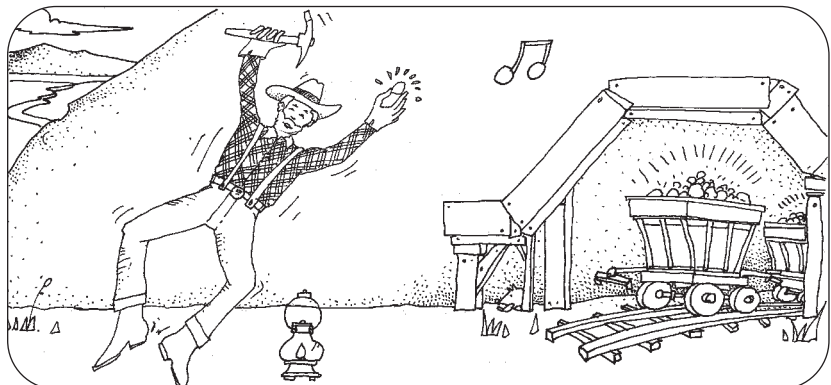
Introduction:

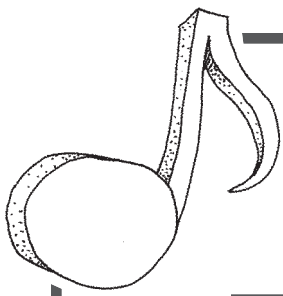
America has an abundant supply of many types of minerals that are essential to our way of life and national security. Building materials such as sand, gravel, stone, and clay are found in most parts of the country. Large coal reserves are found in several regions.

Many other types of mineral resources are mined from individual deposits. These include metals such as iron, copper, lead, zinc, gold, and silver. This is also true for various types of non-metallic minerals such as salt, limestone, phosphate, and potash.

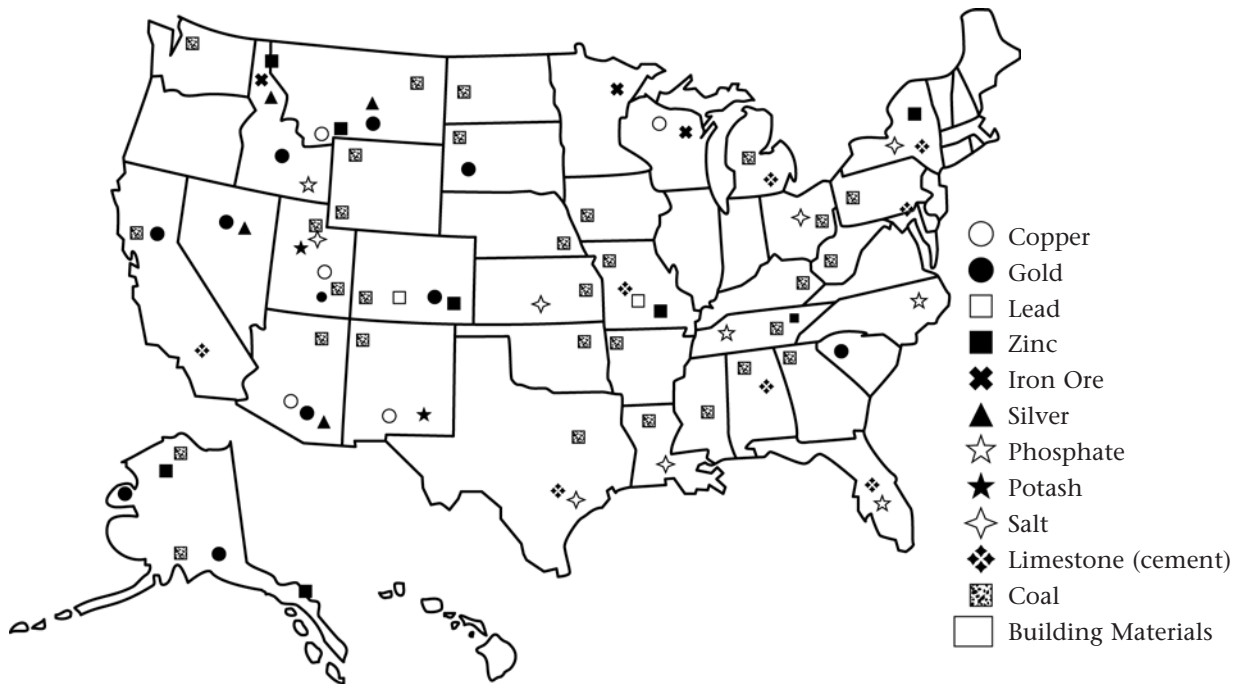
Procedures:

1. Ask the students the following questions:
 - Does every state in America have its own mineral resources to satisfy its needs?
 - Are there any minerals you can name that are not found anywhere in America?
2. Discuss mineral resources, their importance in our daily lives, and where they come from.
3. Have the students sing the *Rocky Minero* song. Discuss the specific minerals Rocky found in the various locations mentioned in the song.
4. Give each student a copy of the map and questions or use the overhead projector and have them answer the questions orally.





Rocky Minero



Questions:

1. Where would you want to live if your career was in gold mining?
2. What state did your table salt probably come from?
3. If you were a jeweler, where would your closest source of silver be?
4. Which state has the most metallic mineral reserves?
5. Which state has the most non-metallic mineral resource reserves?
6. What state seems to be richest in mineral resources?
7. If you were chief engineer of a new skyscraper in your city, what state would the sand, gravel, stone, and clay or the building materials come from?
 - a. the cement for the foundation?
 - b. the iron ore for the pipes?
 - c. the copper for the electrical wiring?
8. The electric utility in your area needs coal to run its plant and produce electricity. What state is the closest source?
9. What mineral resources are found in your state?