Mineral Clues:

Which mineral is it?

***Metallic Minerals:***

**Pyrite:** Hardness of 6-6.5. Rough texture, but sometimes crystallizes in cubes. Pale brass-yellow. Streak is brown to black. Iron Pyrite is also known as “fool’s gold.”

**Magnetite:** Hardness of 6. Black, rough, and magnetic. Streak is black.

**Hematite:** Hardness of 5.5-6. Dark red to black. Streak is red. Rough texture.

**Galena:** Hardness of 2.5. Shiny, silvery, and heavy, with smooth sides. Grey streak.

**Graphite:** Hardness of 1-2. Dark grey to black. Streak is black. Rough and flaky. Will make your fingers dirty. Used in pencils.

**Mohs Scale of Hardness**

*(softest)***1** Talc

**2.5** Fingernail

**3.5** copper penny

**4** fluorite

**5.5** common glass, most knife blades, a steel nail

**6.5** porcelain tile streak plate

**7** quartz

**8** topaz

**9** corundum

*(hardest)***10** diamond

***Non-metallic Minerals:***

**Garnet:** Hardness of 7-7.5. No streak. Usually red, brown, or black. Rough texture, sometimes crystallizes.

**Quartz:** Hardness of 7. No streak. Milky white or colorless. Rough texture. Used in porcelain. One of the most common minerals in the world.

**Potassium Feldspar:** Hardness of 6-6.5. Pink, white or grey. Has some smooth sides, mostly rough. Leaves a white streak. Common mineral found in granite.

**Flourite:** Hardness of 4. Breaks with smooth sides. Could be colorless with yellow, purple, or green. Leaves a white streak. Lets light through.

**Azurite:** Hardness of 3.5-4. Bright blue to dark blue, leaves a blue streak. Rough texture.

**Barite:** Hardness of 3. White or multicolored. Leaves a white streak. Feels heavy, rough texture.

**Calcite:** Hardness of 3. White or colorless, lets light through. Smooth sides. White streak.

**Muscovite:** Hardness of 2.5-3. Greyish, silvery appearance, see-through. Breaks in smooth flat layers. Leaves a white streak.

**Halite:** Hardness of 2.5. Colorless, white, or pale red. White streak. Cubic, with smooth sides. Lets light through. Ground up to make salt.

**Selenite:** Hardness of 2. Colorless or white, leaves a white streak. Flat smooth sides, see-through.

**Talc:** Hardness of 1. Green, grey, or white, leaves a white streak. Rough texture, feels greasy. Used to make talcum powder.