



Campbell Creek Science Center

Nighttime Observation

All sorts of things are visible at night that you cannot see during the day. Use this activity to observe as many nighttime wonders as you can!

Directions

1. Step outside on a clear evening when you can see the stars.
2. Find a spot to observe the night sky. What do you hear, smell, feel, and see? Write or draw your observations below.
3. Use the checklist on Page 2 to identify and mark off as many nighttime wonders as you can.

Materials

- Pencil or writing tool
- Nighttime checklist

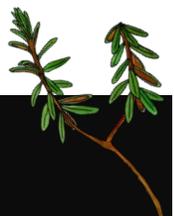
Questions

- What surprised you about the night sky?
- How do nighttime wonders change throughout the year?



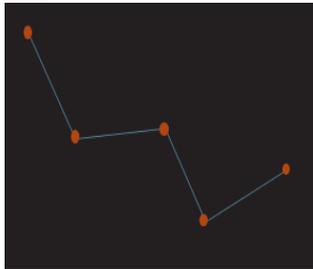
★ Draw or write something you observed in the night sky.

★ *Bonus Activity: Research the items on the checklist to learn more about these nighttime wonders.*

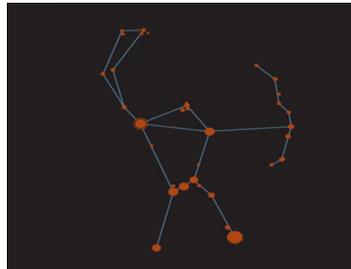




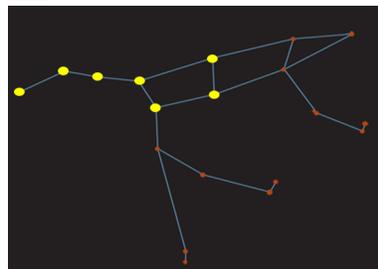
Nighttime Checklist



Cassiopeia
The Seated Queen



Orion
The Hunter



Ursa Major
Great Bear



Groups of stars that form recognizable patterns are called constellations. The Big Dipper, shown in yellow, is an asterism: A recognized shape, but smaller than a constellation.



Satellite
(looks like a slow-moving star)



Milky Way



Northern Lights



The Moon



Signs of an owl
(such as hooting)



Bat



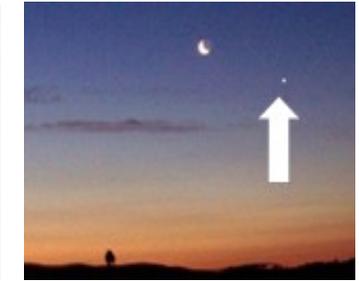
★ Lynx, bats, and many owl species are nocturnal, meaning they are more active at night. Others species are crepuscular and are active at dusk and dawn.



Eyeshine



A thin layer of tissue behind the eye reflects light back into the eye. This helps nighttime animals see better in the night and can make the animals' eyes glow.



Planet
(looks like a bright star)





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Bingo! Minerals, Minerals, Everywhere!

You can find minerals in all sorts of products people use and see everyday. Check off the minerals you find in your home using this bingo sheet.

Directions

1. Search for items in the squares on the bingo sheet. Cross off the mineral products once you find them. To get a bingo, make a horizontal, vertical, or diagonal line.
2. Completed a bingo? Challenge yourself to see if you can find all the minerals on the sheet.
3. Head outside to search for minerals. Keep an eye out for rocks containing different colors. How many different colors can you find?

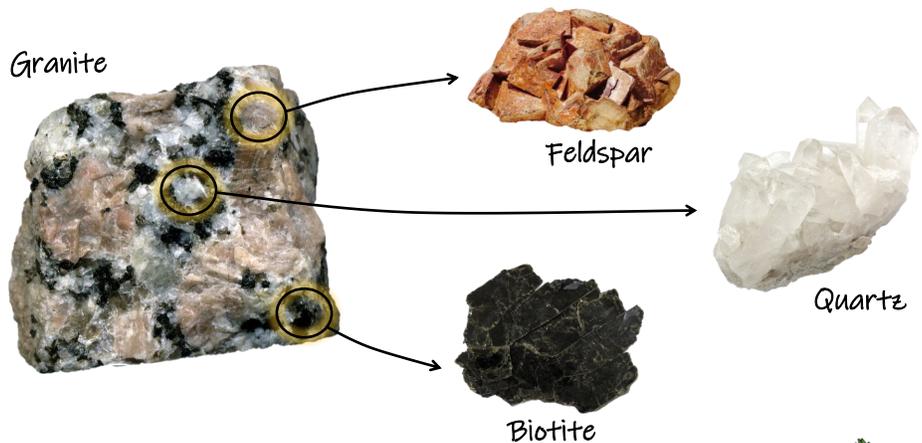
Questions

- What mineral product was the most surprising to you?
- Since minerals are *nonrenewable*, what can people do to conserve minerals and the items they are used in?

What are minerals?

Minerals are substances formed naturally in the Earth. They are usually solid, inorganic, and have a crystal structure. Minerals are *nonrenewable*. That means they are used up faster than they can be made by nature. People extract minerals from rocks through mining and then process them to make products, such as those found in your home.

Some rocks, such as granite, are composed of several different minerals.





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Bingo! Minerals, Minerals, Everywhere!

Make a bingo out of these minerals and the products they are used in. Can you find all the products?

 Feldspar - Toilet	 Perlite - Potting soil	 Silver - Mirror	 Quartz - Computer
 Fluorite - Toothpaste	 Scheelite - Light bulb	 Halite - Salt	 Limestone - Concrete
 Talc - Lipstick	 Iron - Screw	 Gypsum - Bread	 Sulfur - Matches
 Zincite - Sunscreen	 Sphalerite - Batteries	 Gold - Jewelry	 Graphite - Pencil

Once you've looked for things made from minerals inside, head outside to look for minerals. Look for rocks with different colors. How many different colors can you find?

