

UNEARTHING MINS

HABITATS

Habitat describes how and where the mineral was formed. Understanding this helps us predict where to find the minerals we use everyday.



HABITAT	DESCRIPTION
HYDROTHERMAL	Formed from hot, mineral-rich water moving underground
METAMORPHIC	Rock changed by heat and pressure deep underground
MAGMATIC	Formed from magma deep underground
IGNEOUS	Rock formed when melted rock cools and solidifies
SEDIMENTARY – EVAPORITE	Formed in sedimentary conditions when water evaporates, leaving minerals behind
SEDIMENTARY – HYDROTHERMAL	Found in both sedimentary and hydrothermal environments
SEDIMENTARY – MINERAL PROCESSING BYPRODUCT	Material left after valuable minerals are extracted
SMELTER	Where heat separates metal from ore to produce purer metal These mineral resources are created/condensed through processing.
HYDROTHERMAL/IGNEOUS	Formed by both hot underground water and cooling melted rock

INSTRUCTIONS

Group or Individual Activity

- 1) Watch the video on the MINS - Unearthed Learning Resources video describing mineral resource habitats
- 2) Read through the Habitat descriptions provided
- 3) Have students randomly select cards and allocate them to their habitat
- 4) When all cards are allocated, ask students to look at the MIN characteristics to identify any similarities

Extension question:

- 5) Ask students to identify 3 habitats near to where they live. What MINS what they expect to find if they were to explore in their area?
- 6) Go to the SARIG website: <https://map.sarig.sa.gov.au/>
Select Mines and Mineral Deposits by Commodity in Active Layers

Did you find the minerals you expected to find?