

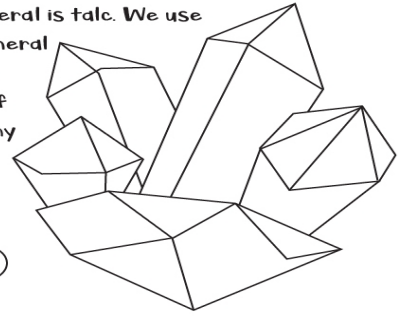
Name: _____

Date: _____

Reading Fluency

Read the passages and answer the questions below!

Minerals are very interesting and are lots of fun to learn about. They are a solid and have never been alive. Minerals were formed in nature. We identify or name minerals by their properties. One property that we look at is how hard a mineral is. When we test or measure a mineral's hardness that is called a scratch test. The hardest mineral is a diamond, and the softest mineral is talc. We use a streak test to help identify minerals. In a streak test, we rub a mineral on an unglazed, white tile and see what color streak it leaves behind. Luster is the reflection of light from a mineral. Minerals with a lot of luster look shiny. Sometimes minerals are the same color, which is why we often cannot use color to identify minerals.



◆ What is luster? _____

◆ Why is color not always a good way to identify minerals? _____

◆ How do we measure hardness? _____

◆ What are minerals? _____