

## Mapping Bauxite

### Topic: Mining

#### Background Information:

Bauxite occurs through a weathering process of granite and laterite over millions of years. In Western Australia, bauxite is formed on the sides of hills starting at a depth of approximately 0.5m and reaching an average depth of 4-5m including the caprock. Bauxite is also located in other regions of the world.

#### You will need:

- Global map showing mineral deposits
- Paper
- Pencils

#### What you need to do:

- Find the different locations of bauxite around the world.
- Draw a Venn diagram showing similarities and differences between the locations.
- Is there a pattern to the locations?

#### Extension/Alternatives

- Which of these areas have active mining?
- Compare and contrast the communities where mining operations exist and have existed.
- What are the longitudes and latitudes for the different locations?
- Using a blank map, shade the areas where bauxite is located.
- What other minerals can be found in these regions?

#### Final question

What can deduce from the presence of bauxite in these regions?

**Curriculum Links:**

**Society and Environment:** Investigation, Communication & Participation,  
Place and Space, Natural and Social Systems, Resources

**Science:** Earth and Beyond

**Mathematics:** Space

**Reference**

Lateritic Bauxites

G. Bardossy and G.J.J. Aleva

Developments in Economic Geology No. 27

Elsevier Press 1990

**Teacher resource:**







