

Rock Collections

Topic: Mining

Background Information

There are 3 different types of rock: igneous (volcanic), sedimentary and metamorphic. The bauxite of the Darling Range is predominantly igneous rock (mainly granite that has been altered through a leaching process).

Alumina is refined from bauxite and aluminium is then smelted from the alumina.

What You Need To Do

- Put together a rock collection from your local area.
- Note the differences and similarities between the areas where the rocks have been collected from.
- Create a table that shows the physical properties of the rocks.

Extension/ Alternatives

- Draw a Venn diagram for rock locations and rock properties.
- Can you identify the different types of rocks?
- Create a poster of a rock collection noting the physical properties of the rocks and likely locations. How many of the rocks that have metal deposits, actually resemble the final product that is mined from them?

Curriculum Links

Society & Environment: Resources

Science: Earth and Beyond, Natural and Processed Materials

Technology and Enterprise: Information

