

# Minerals In Your Home

## Activity Book



# Minerals in Your Home



**Written by**

Ann-Thérèse Brace, Andreea Suceveanu, and Sheila Stenzel

**Illustrated by**

Heather Brown

***Minerals in Your Home*** is produced by MineralsEd.

© 2017 MineralsEd (Mineral Resources Education Program of BC)  
900-808 West Hastings St., Vancouver, BC V6C 2X4 Canada  
Tel. (604) 682-5477 | Fax (604) 681-5305 | Website: [www.MineralsEd.ca](http://www.MineralsEd.ca)

# Introduction

## If It Can't Be Grown, It Has To Be Mined

As you look around your home, it is important to think of the many things that you have and what are they made from. *Everything* we have is made from **Earth's natural resources**: rocks, minerals, soil, plants, animals, and water.

**Rocks** and **minerals** are natural resources that we use every day in many ways. They must be **mined** out of the ground before they are made into useful things.

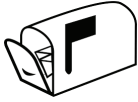
It is pretty easy to tell what is made from **rocks** and **minerals**. Everything that is not made from wood and is not food, is made from **rocks** and **minerals**!

One of the most important materials that comes from minerals is **metal**. **Metals** are natural materials that come from minerals that make up rocks. It's easy to recognize things made of metal. They are shiny, hard, and heavy for their size.

Another common material that is made from a natural mineral resources is **plastic**. **Plastic** is a man-made material made from **crude oil**. **Crude oil** is a natural liquid found deep underground. Plastic can be soft or stiff, and it is lightweight.

# Minerals in Your Home

Name these objects that are made with **metal**.



**M** is for \_\_\_\_\_

**E** is for \_\_\_\_\_

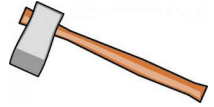


**T** is for \_\_\_\_\_

**A** is for \_\_\_\_\_

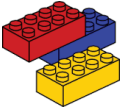


**L** is for \_\_\_\_\_



Name these objects that are made with **plastic**.

**P** is for \_\_\_\_\_



**L** is for \_\_\_\_\_

**A** is for \_\_\_\_\_



**S** is for \_\_\_\_\_

**T** is for \_\_\_\_\_



**I** is for \_\_\_\_\_

**C** is for \_\_\_\_\_



# The Office

The **office** is a quiet room. It is a place to do homework, read books, and make phone calls.



In the office we can find many things that are made from **minerals**, like the computer, the lamp and the swivel chair.

These things are all made with **metal** and **plastic**.



Circle three things in this office that are made with **metal**. Name them.

---

---

---

## Minerals in Your Home

Many things in the office use **electricity**. The electricity moves through **wires** that are made of **metal**. Things that use electricity are called **electronic devices**. Electronic devices can be plugged into the wall, or they can run on **batteries**. Metal wire is in all electronic devices, plugged in or battery powered!



Label with an **E** the things that use **electricity**!

Electronic devices are often made with **plastic** too. Plastic is used a lot in the home because it is lightweight and it lasts a long time.

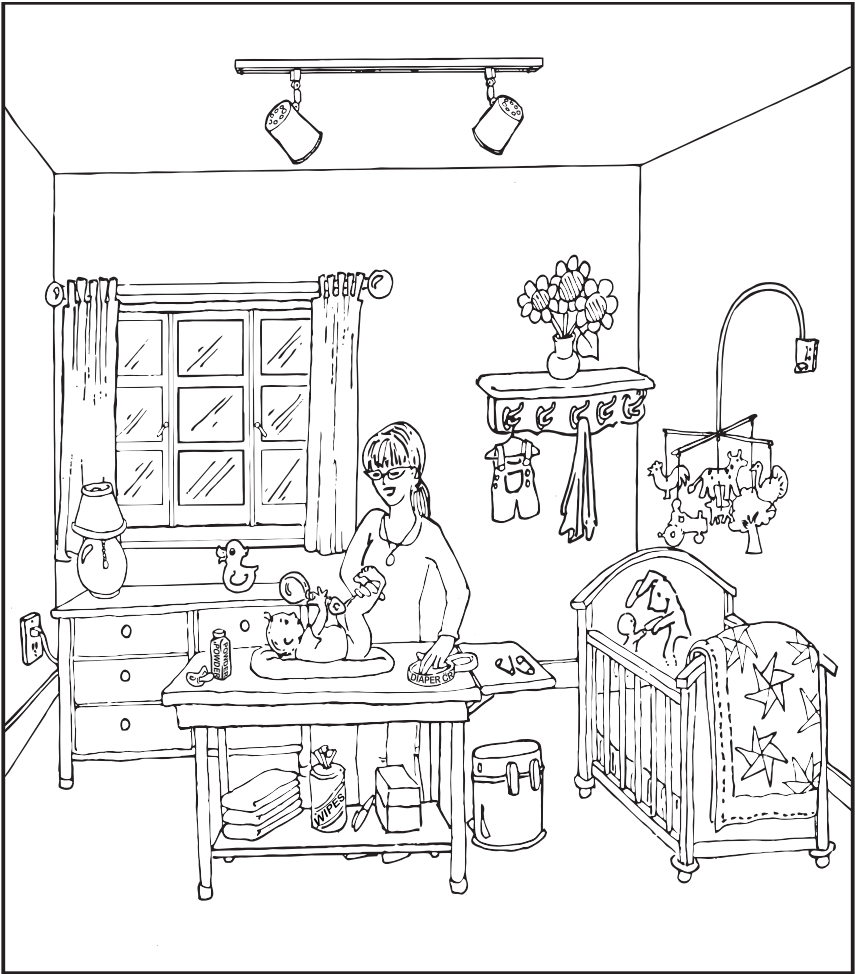


Label with \* one thing in this office that is made partly of **plastic**. Name it.

---

# The Nursery

In the **nursery** we can find many things made from minerals.



**Diaper cream** is used to protect the baby's skin. Diaper cream is made with a **mineral** that contains **zinc**.

# Minerals in Your Home

Mom might sprinkle **baby powder** on the baby's skin to keep it dry. Baby powder is made of the mineral **talc**.

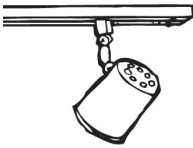


Circle the baby's diaper pins, clothes hanger and hooks. They are all made of **metal**.



What can you see in the nursery that uses **electricity**?

l \_ \_ \_ p



c e \_ \_ l \_ \_ \_ g l \_ \_ \_ \_ t

The diaper wipes bottle and the baby powder bottle are both made of **plastic**.



Can you find another thing in the nursery that is made with **plastic**? Label it with a **P**. Name it.

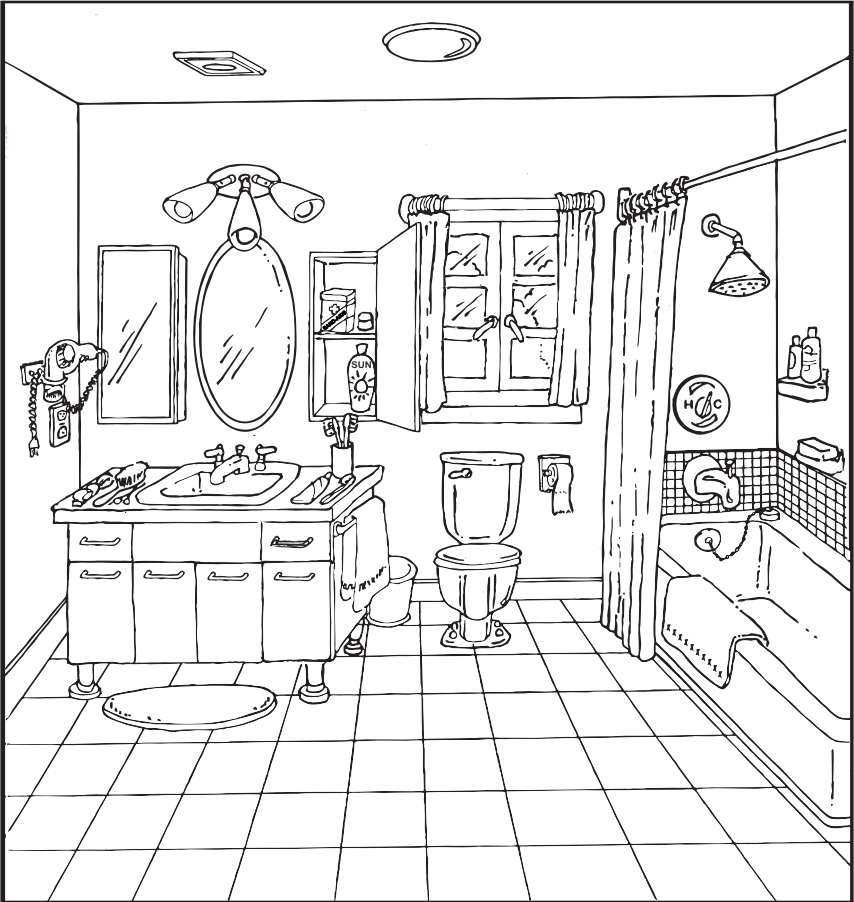
\_\_\_\_\_

Babies need their sleep. The walls help keep the nursery warm and quiet so the baby can sleep peacefully. The walls here, and throughout the house, are made from the mineral **gypsum**!



# The Bathroom

The **bathroom** is made using so many **minerals** that it is practically a mine in disguise!



The toilet, tub and sink are made of **porcelain**. Porcelain is made from **minerals**. It is hard, white and shiny.

The shower curtain rod and faucets are made of **metal**.

# Minerals in Your Home



The tiles on the floor are made from minerals too. How many **tiles** can you see? Count them.

---

There are minerals in your toothpaste too! **Fluorite** is the mineral in your toothpaste that protects your teeth from cavities!

The bathroom in your house could not exist without **mining**.



Of course, some things in the bathroom **are not** made of minerals. Can you name them?

s \_ \_ \_ p



c \_ r \_ \_ \_ n



t \_ \_ \_ l \_ \_ \_ p \_ \_ \_ \_ r



r \_ \_ g

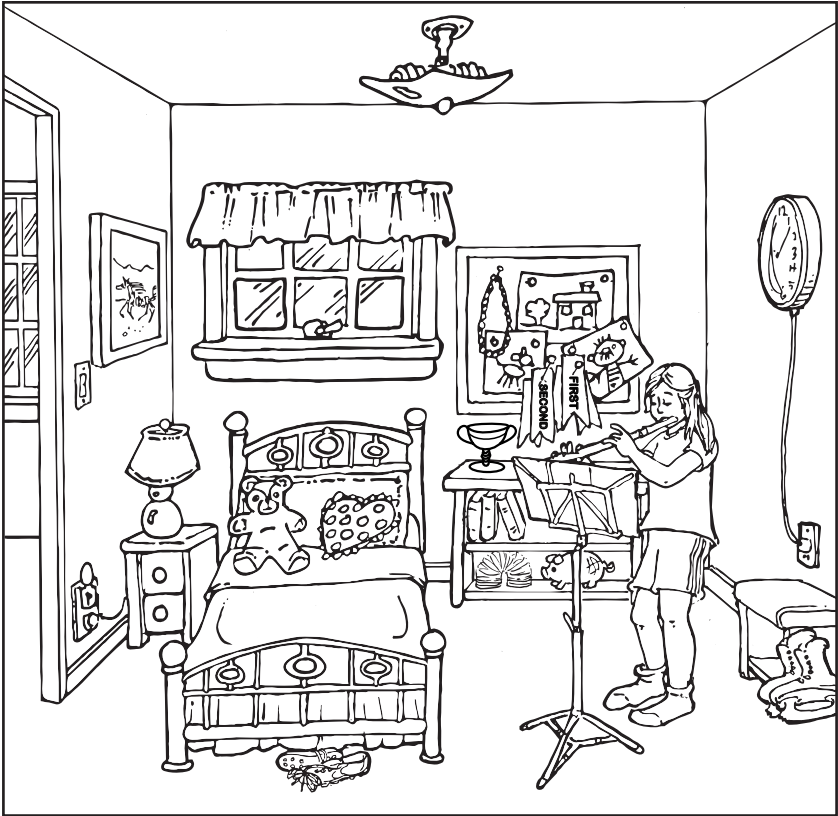


t \_ \_ w \_ \_ \_



# The Bedroom

The **bedroom** is a comfy place where you can play with your toys, practice music, or sit with friends and talk. Minerals are found here too!



The **glass** in the window is made from the mineral **quartz**.



Circle the window and name one other thing in this bedroom that is made with **glass**. Name it.

---

# Minerals in Your Home

The ceiling light and the lamp use **electricity**. You can see they are both connected to the wall. Light bulbs are made with **glass, metal**, and sometimes with **plastic** too.

Minerals can help you get a good night sleep. This **brass** bed frame is made of **metal**. Minerals also keep you on time. That wall clock is made with **m** \_\_\_\_\_ and **p** \_\_\_\_\_.

Remember that **metals** are made from minerals that come from a **mine**.



This little girl enjoys three activities that require things made with metal. Name them:



\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_



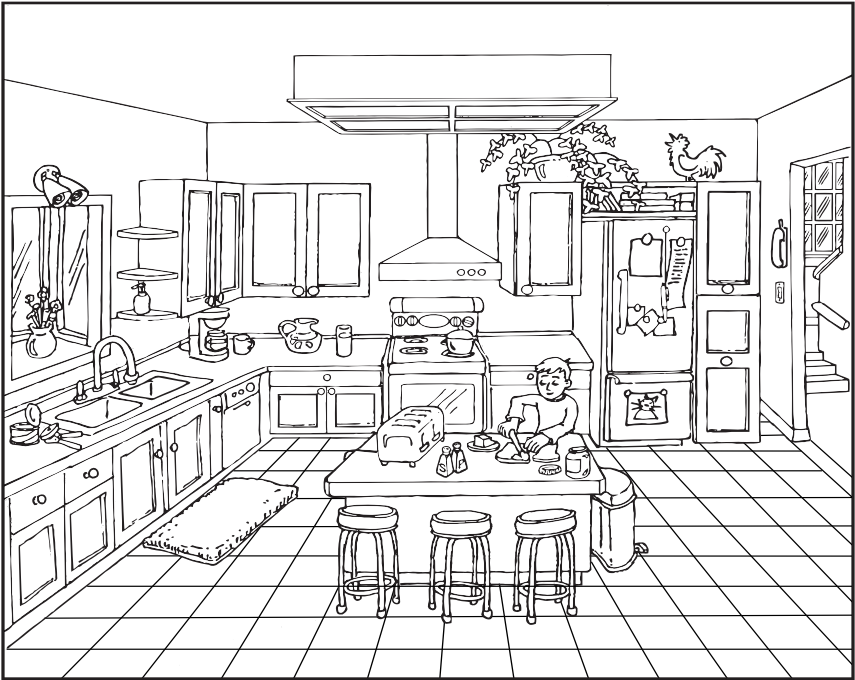
Label with an **M** two things that are made with metal. Name them.

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

# The Kitchen

Many things in the **kitchen** come from a mine!



Most cooking tools are made from **minerals**. Our forks, spoons and knives are made from minerals. We even eat some minerals!



Many things in the kitchen are made with **metal**. Circle three things that are made with metal and name them.

---



There are also lots of things in the kitchen made with **glass**. Label with a \* three things that are made of glass.

# Minerals in Your Home

Did you know that we also eat some minerals? Table salt is actually a mineral called **halite**. Other foods, like meats, fruits and vegetables, contain minerals as well. Those minerals came from the rocks that broke down to form soil. Humans need minerals to grow and to stay healthy.



## Recycling!

The kitchen is **recycling** central. It is important to remember that everything we have comes from **Earth's natural resources**. **Recycling** is an easy way to save Earth's natural resources and reduce the amount of garbage we produce. Many things that are made from minerals can be recycled!



Name some things we can recycle in the kitchen.

g \_ \_ \_ s j \_ r



p \_ \_ s t \_ \_ b \_ t t \_ e



p \_ \_ c \_ a



f \_ \_ d s c \_ \_ \_ s

j \_ \_ c \_ b \_ \_

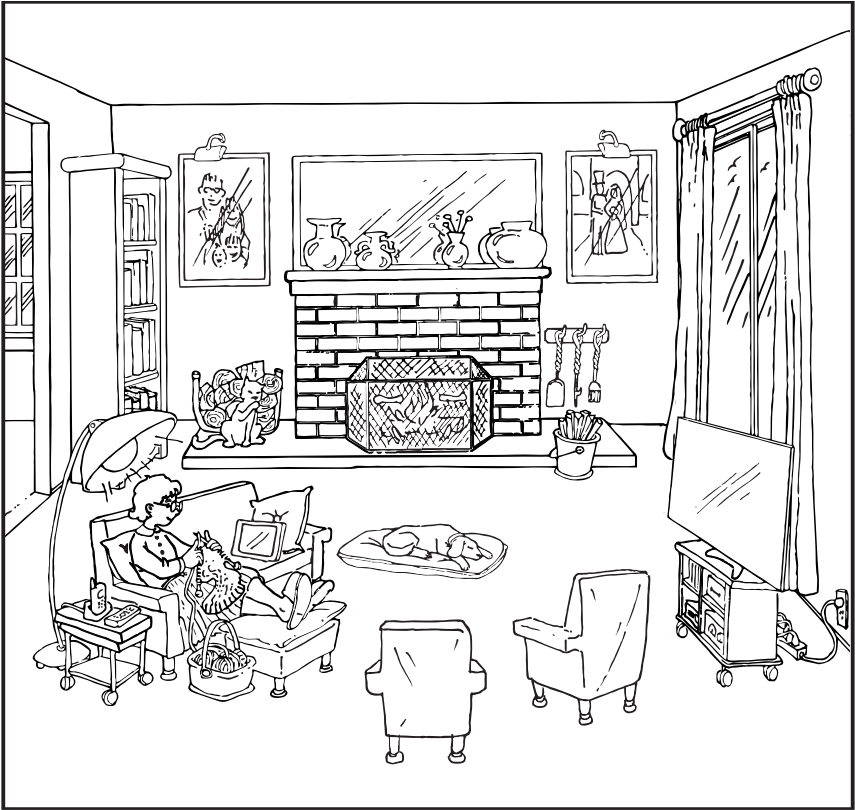


p \_ p \_ \_



# The Living Room

Everyone loves to gather in the **living room** and relax - even the family pets! You can read a magazine, watch TV, take a nap or daydream.



By now we know that anything made of **metal (M)** or **glass (G)**, or **plastic (P)** is made from **minerals** that come from a **mine**. There are many other things that are made of minerals as well!



Look around this living room and label the things you see with **M**, **G** and **P**.

# Minerals in Your Home



**Electronics**, like the TV, Xbox, tablet, and cellphone, are made using many different minerals. Label the electronics in this living room with an **E**.

The fireplace **bricks** are made from minerals that do not burn.

Even the **paint** on the walls contains minerals that give it colour.



Draw **four** things that you have at home that are made with minerals.







### **MineralsEd**

MineralsEd is an educational organization operating in British Columbia that is dedicated to encouraging and supporting Earth science, mineral resources and mining education in school. It is a non-partisan, charitable organization. [www.MineralsEd.ca](http://www.MineralsEd.ca)