

Earth Science Power Point Notes (part 2)

The Geosphere is the solid part of Earth. It is made of soil, rocks, minerals, and metal.

Minerals –

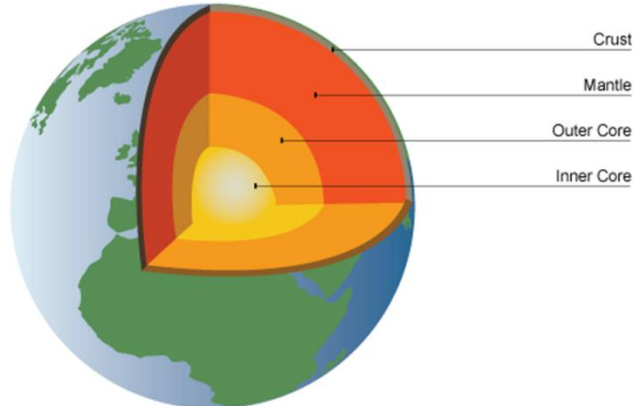
1. naturally occurring
2. Inorganic
3. Solid
4. have crystal structures
5. Have definite chemical compositions

Minerals are identified by their physical properties.

Physical properties of minerals

1. Color
2. Streak- color of a minerals powder
3. Hardness – how easily a mineral can be scratched
4. Luster – how a mineral reflects light
5. Crystal shape

Earth's Internal Structure



Crust- the brittle outer layer of the geosphere. It is under the soil on continents and under the ocean

Mantle- the largest part of the geosphere. It is a thick liquid layer of hot, partially molten rock.

Outer core- A thick layer of liquid metal made mostly of iron and small amounts of nickel.

Inner core- a dense ball of solid iron