

Name _____

The Magical World of Mineral Formation

Short Answer Key

1. Minerals can form from solutions when substances in water become concentrated and then precipitate out as solid minerals when the water evaporates or cools down.
2. An example of a mineral formed through biological processes is calcite, found in seashells. Marine creatures extract calcium carbonate from the ocean to build their shells.
3. Pressure and temperature changes deep within the Earth's crust can cause minerals within rocks to change and recrystallize into new forms.
4. Minerals form from magma and lava through the cooling and solidification process. As magma or lava cools, it crystallizes, forming minerals with different properties.
5. Hydrothermal veins form deep within the Earth's crust in hot, watery conditions. An example of a mineral formed in such an environment is quartz.

