

Name _____

Precious Pieces of Earth: The Significance of Minerals in Our Planet's Composition

Open-Ended Response Questions

1. Consider the environmental impact of mining minerals. How can responsible mining practices minimize the negative effects on ecosystems and local communities?
2. Reflect on the role of minerals in human history and technological advancements. How have minerals shaped the development of civilization?
3. Imagine you are a geologist exploring a newly discovered mineral. What steps would you take to identify and classify the mineral, and what tools or tests would you use?
4. Discuss the ethical concerns surrounding the mining and trade of conflict minerals. How can consumers make informed choices to address these concerns?

