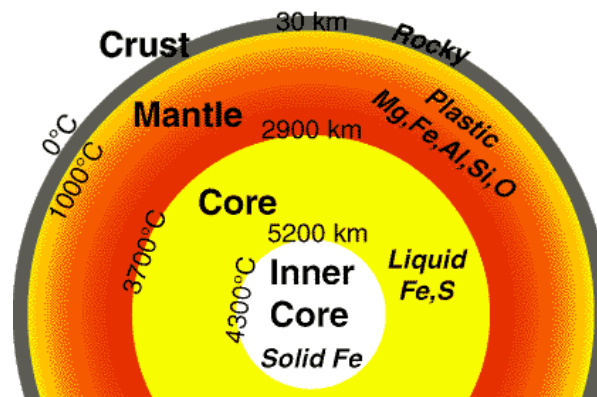


Earth's Interior Minerals

2-5

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Key Points:

1. The outside of the Earth does not look like the inside of the Earth
2. We know what is inside the Earth by using "remote sensing" techniques; this is how we figure out what is there without actually seeing it.
3. The Earth is made up of the crust, mantle, outer core and inner core. Each of these layers has different properties, and is made up of different minerals.

Materials:

- Minerals (quartz, feldspar, iron, etc.)

Procedure:

1. Have the students look at a cross section of the Earth. Ask them what they think each layer might be made of, and what properties it might have.
2. Talk about how scientists might know what is inside the Earth without actually being able to see it.
3. Talk about the properties of each of the layers of the Earth, and the primary minerals that are found there.
4. Pass out the minerals.

Questions:

1. What things can you observe about the minerals? Are they different colors?
Are some heavier than others?
2. How can earthquakes help us determine properties about the Earth's Interior?
3. What type of scientists study the interior of the Earth?

Extension:

* Do other activities such as Layer Cake Drilling and Earth's Interior Structure.