

NAME _____ DATE _____
INSTRUCTOR _____ PERIOD _____ PARTNER _____

UNIT 2: Earth Materials

LAB 2-1: CLASSIFICATION OF EARTH MATERIALS

INTRODUCTION: The materials that make up Earth's solid crust can be classified into groups according to similar characteristics which permits easier identification and analysis. Much of Earth Science is based upon classification.

OBJECTIVE: You will develop a classification system that can be used to classify a given group of earth materials.

VOCABULARY:

observation:

property:

classification:

PROCEDURE:

1. Carefully observe the properties of the samples provided.
2. Set up a report sheet for your observations.
3. Decide what classification system you will use for the objects.
4. Set up a report sheet based on your classification system.
5. Classify each object provided and record your observations on your report sheet.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS: (Answer in Complete Sentences)

1. How did you observe the properties of these items?

2. What was the basis for your classification system?

3. Think of another way to classify these earth materials. Describe the properties that formed the basis for this second classification.

4. What is the advantage of using a classification system in order to group things?

CONCLUSION: What is the basis for all classification systems?