

- A. Description: My project for this class is to create a collection of rocks and minerals common to Iowa to be used in a basic 6th grade lab focusing on identification.
- B. Objectives/Goals:
- 1) The students will develop problem solving skills through identification of rock and mineral samples common to Iowa.
 - 2) The students will become familiar with basic identification characteristics of common Iowa rocks and minerals
 - 3) The students will become familiar with the possible uses of one or more minerals/rocks common to Iowa.
- B. Implementation: Our current 6th grade curriculum focuses on earth's process including a study of rocks and minerals. I would like to begin the lab by having each lab team rotate through the rocks and mineral samples and record any observable characteristics that would be helpful in identification. I would follow this with a discussion of the specific characteristics of each rock/mineral used in the lab using only the names but no physical samples. Following this presentation the students would go back to the numbered samples and attempt to identify each using the information they collected in conjunction with information I presented. As a follow-up, each team would be asked to select a rock or mineral and research its possible uses. The information would then be included in a 3-5 minute power point presentation to be shown to the class at a future date.
- C. Assessment: The students would be graded on the descriptive characteristics they recorded for each rock/mineral as well as the accuracy of their final identification. Power point presentation would also receive a grade
- D. The collections made in the class will be used as the focus of this activity.