

# Chapter Eight

## Science Study Guide

### Vocabulary:

*Mineral:* A natural, nonliving solid crystal that makes up rocks

*Luster:* The way a mineral's surface reflects light. The luster may be dull, metallic, pearly, or glassy

*Sediment:* Eroded material (bits of rock, soil, shells, and dead plant and animal matter) that settles on land or on the bottom of lakes, rivers, and oceans

*Sedimentary rock:* Rock that forms as new layers of particles settle on top of old layers and press the lower layers together

*Metamorphic rock:* Rock that has changed as a result of heat and pressure

*Igneous rock:* Rock that forms from molten rock

### Key Points:

- ◆ Moh's scale is used to test for a mineral's hardness. A harder mineral can scratch a softer mineral.
- ◆ Limestone forms from tiny bits of skeletons and shells of sea animals.
- ◆ Soil forms as water freezes and thaws, causing rock to break apart.
- ◆ Soil is composed of weathered rock and dead and decaying plant and animal remains.
- ◆ Igneous rocks can form above ground. These rocks cool quickly and do not have much time to make crystals. Any crystals that do form are tiny.
- ◆ Igneous rocks can form below ground. The rocks cool slowly and large crystals are formed.
- ◆ Most rocks are made of different combinations of minerals.
- ◆ Streak is used to test minerals. A mineral may come in several colors but will always have the same color streak.
- ◆ The Giant's Causeway in Northern Ireland was formed from lava that cooled rapidly and left cracks which formed pillars.
- ◆ Conglomerate rock is made from small pieces or rounded rock about the size of pebbles.
- ◆ Granite contains crystals of quartz and feldspar.
- ◆ The rock cycle is driven by heat, pressure, reactions, weathering, and erosion.
- ◆ The geologic time scale is organized into four major time periods or eras.
- ◆ Scientists can learn how a dinosaur moved by studying its footprint.