

ROCK HOUND

Description: Identify rocks and minerals using a rock identification and information chart made by the team, and answer questions relating to photographs of geologic features.

Number of Participants: 2

What to Bring:

1. Both team members are required to wear goggles. These must be brought with you and worn during the event. If you forget them, you must go fetch them and thereby have less time for the event.
2. A team may bring an 8.5" x 11" data chart to assist in the testing process. No pictures or illustrations are allowed on such a chart. The chart will need to receive approval at check-in or it cannot be used.

Competition:

Part I: Rock and Mineral Identification

1. The team has twenty (20) minutes to identify as many rocks and minerals as possible from a group which can include, but is not limited to the following: basalt; bituminous; coal; conglomerate; gneiss; slate; granite; limestone; marble; obsidian; fluorite; pumice; quartzite; sandstone; halite; pyrite; schist [garnet]; scoria; shale; calcite; copper; galena; graphite; feldspar [pink]; gypsum; hematite; kaolinite; mica [biotite]; talc; quartz [several varieties].
2. Each team receives one small dropping bottle with a very limited amount of acid. If excessive amounts are used on rocks and the team runs out, the team receives no additional acid.
3. Items for testing hardness, scratch, etc., will be provided.
4. Points will be given for each correct answer.

Part II: Geologic Features

1. Pictures or models relating to geologic features will be used in this part of the test.
2. These may include, but are not limited to: talus slope; geyser; anticline; fault line; tectonic; plates; glaciers; volcanoes.
3. Points will be given for each correct answer.

Scoring: Teams with the most points will be ranked highest.

Tie Breaker: Team with the best spelling on Part II.