A kid's guide to local rocks and minerals - from Kids Rock! game, Piedmont edition

Shade (very light, light,

learning game

Put all the stones on **Start**.

Move each stone to the box where it is described. SAY the name of the rock or mineral. The numbered tags won't help, because the stones are not in number order. When you are done, check the numbers against the Tag# column below.

say and slide game

Rock (or

Use the back side of the playing board. Place all five stones NUMBER SIDE DOWN on **Other**. SAY each name as you SLIDE each stone to its place. DON'T PEEK at the number tags yet! When all five stones are on their squares, turn them over and check the numbers. When you can do this and get all the stones right, you are ready for the advanced game with mystery rock (over).

Five common stones (one mineral and four rocks) in the Piedmont and Blue Ridge, from Alabama to Maryland

Pattern (spotted,

Mineral) name	medium, dark, very dark)	striped, layered, no pattern)	glittery, flashy, dull)	(shape, color)	
Granite	light	spotted	dull*		2
Gneiss	light to medium	striped	dull*		3
Quartz (a mineral)	light	no pattern	glassy or milky		1
Amphibolite	dark	no pattern or striped	dull*		5
Schist	medium	layered	glittery (flakes of the mineral, mica)	gold or silver color	4

Shine (glassy,

*Granite, gneiss, and amphibolite may not look dull on a freshly broken surface. They might look glittery because of their light mineral, feldspar, or their dark minerals, biotite and hornblende.

Many rocks you collect may have been weathered. Weathering can give them colors such as yellow, brown, or red, and make them soft, sandy, or dusty. You might even be able to break a weathered rock with your bare hands!



Special notes



Tag #

advanced game with mystery rock

Return the five numbered stones to their plastic bag.

Use the back side of the playing board.

Place the ten unnumbered stones on their squares. There should be EXACTLY two stones on each square.

The Other square is for two stones that don't match any square. One is not a rock or mineral – it is human-made, such as a piece of asphalt pavement or concrete. The other is your MYSTERY ROCK

Use the table below to identify your mystery rock (or mineral).

hang on to this sheet - find your local rocks and minerals!

Now you are ready to identify common rocks and minerals in the Piedmont (and adjacent Blue Ridge) region in the states of Alabama, Georgia, South Carolina, North Carolina, Virginia, and Maryland, and parts of other states as well. See the map at georgiarocks.us/games. You can download and print this sheet from there as well.

Five less common stones (one mineral and four rocks) in the Piedmont and Blue Ridge, from Alabama to Maryland

Rock (or Mineral) name	Shade (very light, light, medium, dark, very dark)	Pattern (spotted, striped, layered, no pattern)	Shine (glassy, glittery, flashy, dull)	Special notes (shape, color)
Feldspar (a mineral)	light	no pattern	flashy	white color; weathers to make white clay
Marble	very light	no pattern	glittery or milky	can scratch with paper clip
Metagraywacke	medium	no pattern	dull	gray color; blocky pieces; cannot scratch with paper clip
Pegmatite	light	spotted or no pattern	glittery and flashy (different minerals)	different crystals easily seen
Quartzite	light	layered	glittery and glassy	cannot scratch with paper clip
Soapstone	medium	no pattern	dull	can easily scratch with paper clip. gray-green or brown color