

Uses of Rocks : Notes/W.S.-40

Asbestos - fireproof cloth

Chert - flint, used to be used as arrowheads

Clay - used in ceramics, pottery and brick making, the clay must be fired (heated)

Coal - fuel, source of hydrocarbons

Granite - monuments, building stone, potassium-rich granite powder can be used as a fertilizer

Limestone - used to make cement and mortar. (cement is a heated clay/limestone mixture. When cement is mixed with sand, crushed stone and water you have concrete). Limestone is also used in glass making (along with quartz and sodium carbonate), in ore refining, and as a building stone.

Marble - sculptures

Obsidian - rockwool (insulation), primitive people used it to make arrowheads

Pumice - abrasive

Rhyolite - when heat treated, it can be used as insulation

Sandstone - used in grindstones to sharpen knives, building stone

Shale - some shales contain oil

Slate - used in chalkboards and roofs

Other rocks - many rocks are used as sources of ores and minerals

- many rocks are used to make gravel for roads

- some rocks are used as gemstones

Questions:

- 1) Name three rocks that are used as building stones.
- 2) Name a rock that can be used to sharpen knives.
- 3) How is cement made?
- 4) How do you make concrete?
- 5) How is pottery made?
- 6) Name a rock that was used to make arrowheads.
- 7) What is coal used for?
- 8) Which rock is used in glass making?
- 9) Which rock is used as an abrasive?
- 10) Which rock can be used as a fertilizer?
- 11) Which type of rock can be used to make fireproof cloth?
- 12) Name a rock that contains fossils.

Answers: 1) limestone, granite, sandstone, 2) sandstone, 3) clay and limestone are crushed, mixed and heated, 4) cement is mixed with sand, crushed rock and water, 5) clay is molded and heated, 6) obsidian, chert, 7) fuel, source of hydrocarbons, 8) limestone, quartz sand, 9) pumice, 10) powdered granite, 11) asbestos, 12) limestone.