

## 4.1

# IS IT A ROCK OR A MINERAL?

How are rocks and minerals related?

## MATERIALS

- Baggies or small containers
- Candies / Snacks
  - Nestlé Crunch
  - Whole Almonds
  - Chocolate Covered Pretzels
  - Hershey's Kisses with Almonds
  - Whatchamacallit
  - Chocolate chips
  - Rice cereal
  - Mini pretzel sticks
  - Caramels
- Student rock / mineral sorting sheet (see next page)
- Paper towels
- Hand sanitizer

**Warning:** *There are nuts and milk products incorporated into this lab. If you have a nut or milk allergy, please inform the instructor and do not take part in this lab.*

## PREPARATION

1. Create a snack sized baggie sample of each candy material per student group.
2. Place candy snack baggies in a paper bag to be distributed to student groups for analysis.

## DIRECTIONS

1. Make observations about the various materials found in the snack bags provided to your group.
2. Categorize these materials into two primary groups based on your observations.
3. Write your observations on the student rock / mineral sorting sheet. Be able to explain your placement of each material.

## REFLECTION

1. Which materials are more mineral-like? Explain your reasoning.
2. Which materials are more rock-like? Explain your reasoning.

## 4.1 IS IT A ROCK OR A MINERAL? STUDENT ROCK / MINERAL SORTING SHEET

<b>Material type</b>	<b>Rocks/observations</b>	<b>Mineral/observations</b>
Chocolate Chips		
Whatchamacallit		
Chocolate Covered Pretzel		
Whole Almonds		
Caramels		
Hershey's Kisses with Almonds		
Rice Cereal		
Nestle Crunch		
Mini Pretzel Sticks		