

Discover Minerals

Traveling Through Geologic History One Rock at a Time!

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www.discover-minerals.com

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Features

Mine of the Month

Three Kids Mine

(Las Vegas District, NV)

As World War One erupted into a global calamity, manganese became a critical commodity for the war effort for its resistance to wear and ability to toughen alloys (namely, steel). Thus the exigency to find more extensive economical deposits than previously known.

Such a deposit was discovered in 1917 east of the then small train depot called Las Vegas, Nevada.

Element of the Month

Manganese

Synthesized in massive stars shortly before a supernova explosion, manganese, a Group VII transition metal with 25 protons in its nucleus, is the 11th most abundant element in the Earth's crust, comprising just 0.1 percent of the planet's outer layer.

Mineral Showcase

Rhodochrosite



DM Field Trips Lake Mead NRA

Empounded by the iconic Hoover Dam located about thirty miles southwest of Las Vegas, NV, Lake Mead, the largest man-made reservoir in the US, is the crown jewel of the Lake Mead National Recreation Area.

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Identify Your Treasures

Familiarity with the many characteristic properties inherent in all mineral specimens can be a valuable aid in the rapid identification of samples collected in the field or acquired by other means.

Part Four

Chemical Mineralogy:

Equipment, Reagents

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Basics of Geology

Appreciation of the finer features of this marvelous planet we call the Earth requires at least a competent comprehension of the basic concepts of the general field of Geology, which is not an isolated discipline, set apart from all other scientific inquiries, but an intimate associate of all the sciences at their most fundamental levels.

Mineral Identification

Part One
Descriptive Mineralogy

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