**LAB: Identifying Minerals**

Each mineral has specific properties that are a result of its chemical composition and crystalline structure. These properties provide useful clues for identifying minerals. Many of these properties can be identified by simply looking at a sample of the mineral. Other properties can be identified through simple tests.

SUMMARY QUESTIONS

1. DEFINE:

Streak-

Color-

Cleavage-

Fracture-

Hardness-

Luster-

1. Explain why color is an unreliable clue to the identity of a mineral.
2. Identify the two main types of luster.

4. Summarize how you would determine the hardness of an unidentified mineral sample.