

Where are Nevada's Minerals?

Maureen Leshendok
mleshendok@yahoo.com

Grades: 6-12

Time: 10 Minutes

Objectives:

- To learn where some of the important mines and deposits in Nevada are located.
- To practice using a map.
- To locate oneself on the Nevada map.
- To compare the mines location map to other maps to look for trends or related information.

Materials:

- State of Nevada major Mines, Oil Fields, and Geothermal Plants Map (<http://minerals.state.nv.us/forms/miscmining/mmofagp2003.pdf>)
- Generalized Geologic Map of Nevada (8.5 x 11 inch, <ftp://comstock.nbmgs.unr.edu/pub/dox/e30.pdf>)
- Any other maps, reports, histories, e.g.,
- Million-scale Geologic Map of Nevada (Nevada Bureau of Mines and Geology Map 57)
- Your House Comes From a Mine (<http://minerals.state.nv.us/forms/educ/YourHouseComesFAM2p.pdf>)
- Black and colored pencils

Procedure:

- Pass out copies of the Major Mines map to groups.
- Using black pencil, circle the county name where you live.
- Using red pencils, circle some gold mines.
- Using red pencils, circle groups of gold mines.
- There is a salt mine on the map. Find it and circle it in green.
- There are gypsum mines in Clark County, Storey County, and in Pershing County. Circle them in blue.
- What is gypsum used for?
- Where would be a good place to drill for oil?
- Compare these mines to the Generalized Geologic Map of Nevada. Look for the ages of rocks, for faults, volcanic rocks, old rocks, sedimentary rocks, and any other trend you can find.