Word	Know	Not sure	Definition
Mineral			Building block of rocks
Physical properties			Caused by the internal arrangement of atoms in a mineral
color			Not a good mineral identification tool
luster			How a mineral reflects light
hardness			Arranged on the Moh's scale and ranked from 1 to 10.
streak			Used to determine a minerals hardness; Uses unglazed porcelain
Metamorphic rock			Heat and pressure causes partial melting
foliated			minerals in wavy bands or stripes
Sedimentary rock			Compaction, cementation glue the rock fragments together
clastic			Visible sediments or fragments in sedimentary rock
Igneous rock			Complete melting
intrusive			Large crystals, slow cooling, inside the Earth
extrusive			Small crystals, fast cooling, Earth surface
Coastal Plain			Young unconsolidated sediments; source of sand
Piedmont			Igneous and metamorphic rocks from ancient volcanoes
Appalachian Plateau			Flat beds of sedimentary rock: Coal resources
Blue Ridge			Oldest in the state; mostly igneous rock
Valley and ridge			Limestone, folded and faulted rock from convergences with Africa
Karst Topography			carbonic acid chemically weathers limestone to create caves, sinkholes
Carbonic Acid			Carbon dioxide and water combine to form this acid
cyanobacteria			Through photosynthesis changed carbon dioxide in to oxygen
convection			Method of heat transfer where hot, less dense material rises and cold, more dense material sinks.
nonrenewable			Resource used faster than can be replaced.
Solar eclipse			Eclipse where the moon casts a shadow on the Earth
Light year			Distance light travels
Carbon Dioxide			Greenhouse gas that helps trap heat in the atmosphere
weathering			Breaking down of rocks into sediments
erosion			Moving sediments from one place to another by wind, water, ice
Saturation			Holding as much as possible; Ground water pores are filled with water.
Zone of Aeration			Ground pores are filled with air
Permeability			Ability to pass a liquid through; pore spaces must be connected
Porosity			The amount of pore space in an object
Humus			Organic component of soil
Latitude			Measure north and south of the equator ranges from 0^{o} to 90^{o} N/S
Longitude			Measures East and West of Prime Meridian
Convergent			Plates moving together, collision boundaries and trenches, mountain building
Divergent			Plates moving apart, mid ocean ridges and rifts

Word	Know	Not sure	Definition
tide			Rise and fall of water levels due to gravity with Moon and Sun
Mid– ocean Ridge			New crust is made here, a divergent zone
Trench			Old crust is destroyed. A convergent zone, deepest part of ocean
subduction			A more dense plate going under a less dense plate
triangulation			Method using 3 seismic stations determining earthquake
Apollo 11			First manned ship to land on the moon
Neil Armstrong			First human to step foot on the moon
New Moon			Phase where tides are highest
Full Moon			Moon phase when the earth is between the sun and the moon
Quarter Moon			We see half of the moon's surface
Spring tide			Highest of the high tides; occurs during new moon
Neap Tide			Lowest of the high tides; occurs during quarter moon phases
Mercury			Closest planet to the sun
Venus			Once called Earth's twin; hottest planet due to greenhouse effect CO_2
Earth			Only planet where water exists naturally in all 3 states of matter
Mars			Largest known volcano "Olympic Mon's"
Asteroid Belt			Rocky or metallic objects orbiting between Mars and Jupiter
Jupiter			Largest planet in our solar system, Great Red Spot
Saturn			Ringed planet; low density would float on water
Uranus			Tilted 90^o on its axis, one hemisphere constantly night
Neptune			
Pluto			Highly elliptical orbit sometimes makes it the 8th closest planet
Summer			Northern Hemisphere tilted toward Sun; Southern tilted away
rotation			One complete turn on an axis; Basis for the day
revolution			One complete journey around the sun; basis for the year
parallax			Apparent shift in a stars position due to Earth's revolution
Comet			Dirty snowballs that orbit the sun. Oort Comet Cloud
Comet Tail			Always points away from the sun due to the solar wind.
Nebula			Cloud of gas and dust in space
Protostar			Nebula that contracts and begins to heat up and glow
Main Sequence			Hydrogen fusion occurs; Our sun's present lifestage
Red Giant			Helium fusion occurs; Sun expands to Venus Orbit; Betelgeuse
White Dwarf			Carbon fusion occurs;
Black Dwarf			The sun after fusion process is finished,
Black hole			Death stage of an extremely massive star; Our sun won't do this.
Solar Nebula Theory			Solar system formed from a rotating cloud of gas and dust
Jovian			Large gas giant planets in our solar system

Word	Know	Not sure	Definition
Density			Mass/volume
Volume			Amount of space an object takes up
mass			Amount of “stuff” that makes up an object
Water displacement			Graduated cylinder for volume; triple beam balance for mass
hypothesis			Prediction about a problem that can be tested
Polaris			North Star; Altitude of this star equals your latitude
Steep slope			Contour lines are close together
Nitrogen			Most abundant gas in our atmosphere
ozone			Gas in the stratosphere that protects us from solar radiation
Coriolis Effect			Due to rotating earth causes winds and currents to curve
Warm front			Symbol with half moons; move slow and produce light rain
Cold Front			Symbol with triangles; fast moving producing heavy precipitation
wind			Air moving from high pressure to low pressure
Jet stream			High level fast moving winds that push weather systems
Pyroclastic flow			High temperature gas, dust, ash released from a volcano
Greenhouse Effect			Trapping of long wave energy in the atmosphere: H_2O and CO_2
Fossil Fuel			Coal, oil natural gas
Amber			Hardened tree sap that often traps and preserves insects
sulfur			Distinctly yellow mineral; rotten egg smell
climate			The average Weather of an area.
Rising air			Air moving in this direction causes precipitation
Sinking air			Evaporation takes place as the air moves in this direction
Deserts			Occur where air is sinking or sliding down a mountain
Milky Way			The name of our galaxy
Spiral			Most common type of galaxy; The Milky Way is this type galaxy.
condensation nucleii			Clouds need saturated air and small pieces of dirt, smoke, ice called
cirrus			High white feather clouds usually indicating fair weather
cumulus			Cotton ball clouds, signals rising air which leads to precipitation
stratus			Thin low level clouds covering the entire sky light precipitation
Nimbus-			Prefix on clouds meaning rain
upwellings			Brings cold, nutrient rich bottom water to the surface
estuary			Area where salt and fresh water mix
4.6 billion years			The estimated age of the Earth
superposition			Unless overturned, the oldest rocks are on the bottom
Cross cutting relations			An intrusion is younger than the rocks it cuts across
Terrestrial planet			Small, rocky surface planets with few moons in our solar system

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meteor			Piece or rock or metal from space in our atmosphere