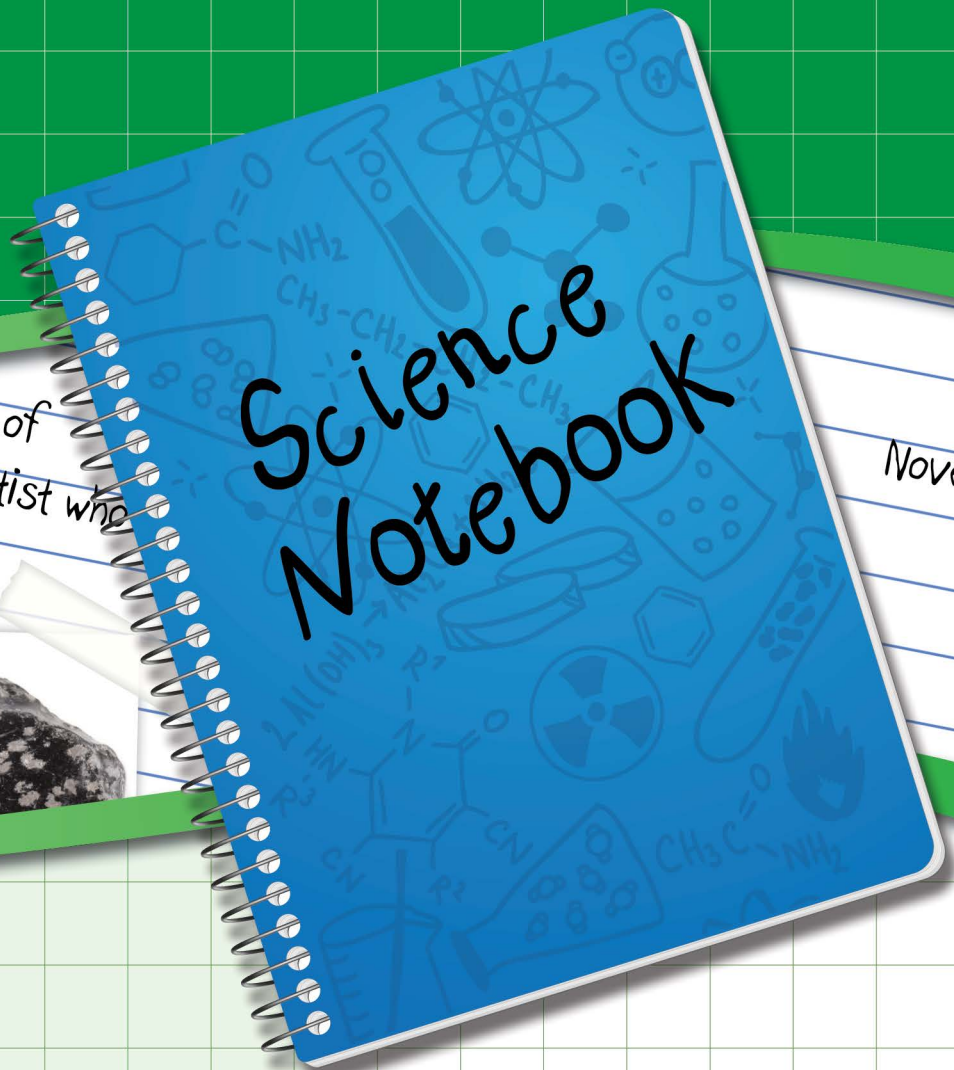


# Rock Notes



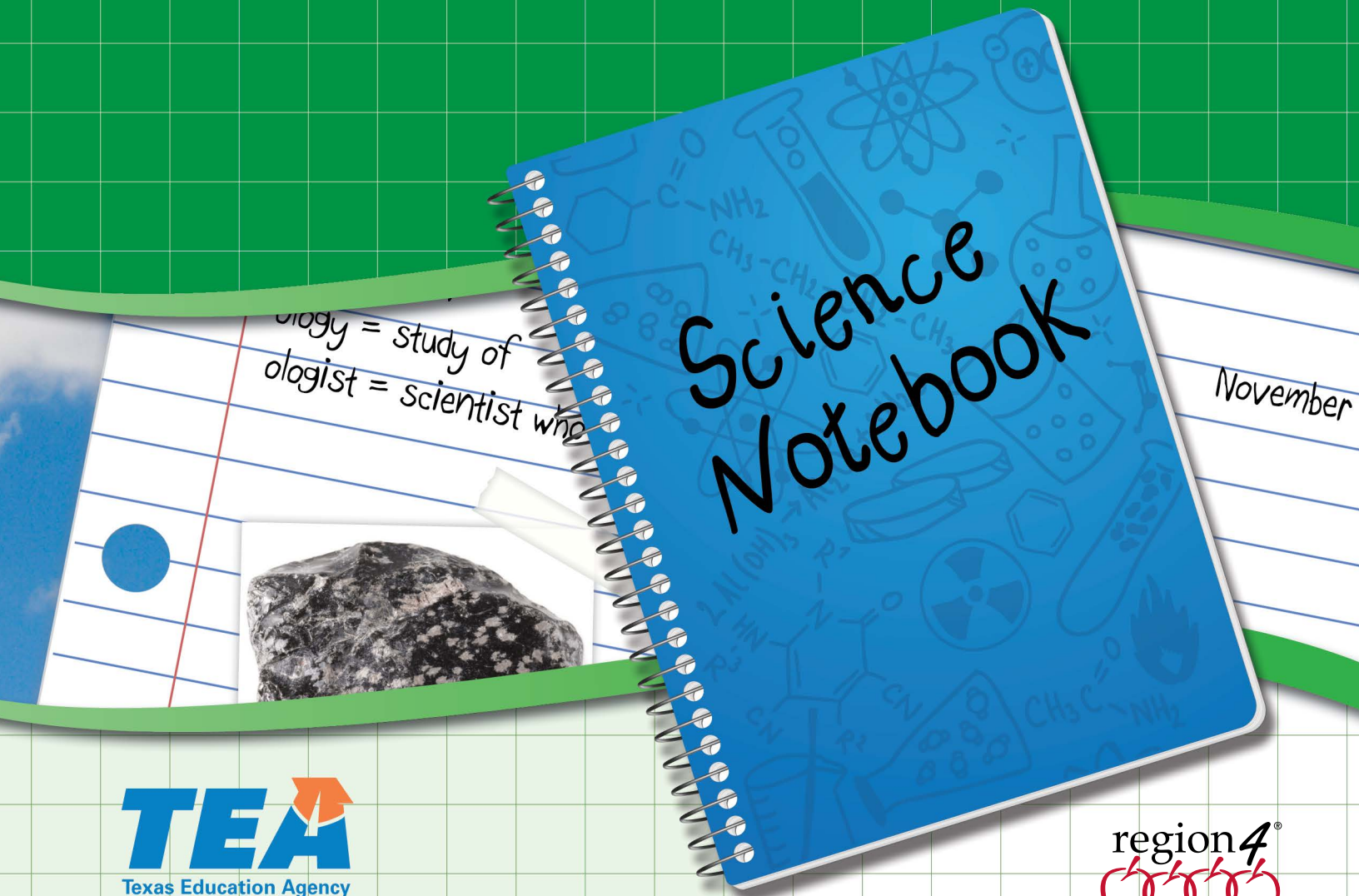
ology = study of  
ologist = scientist who



November



# Rock Notes



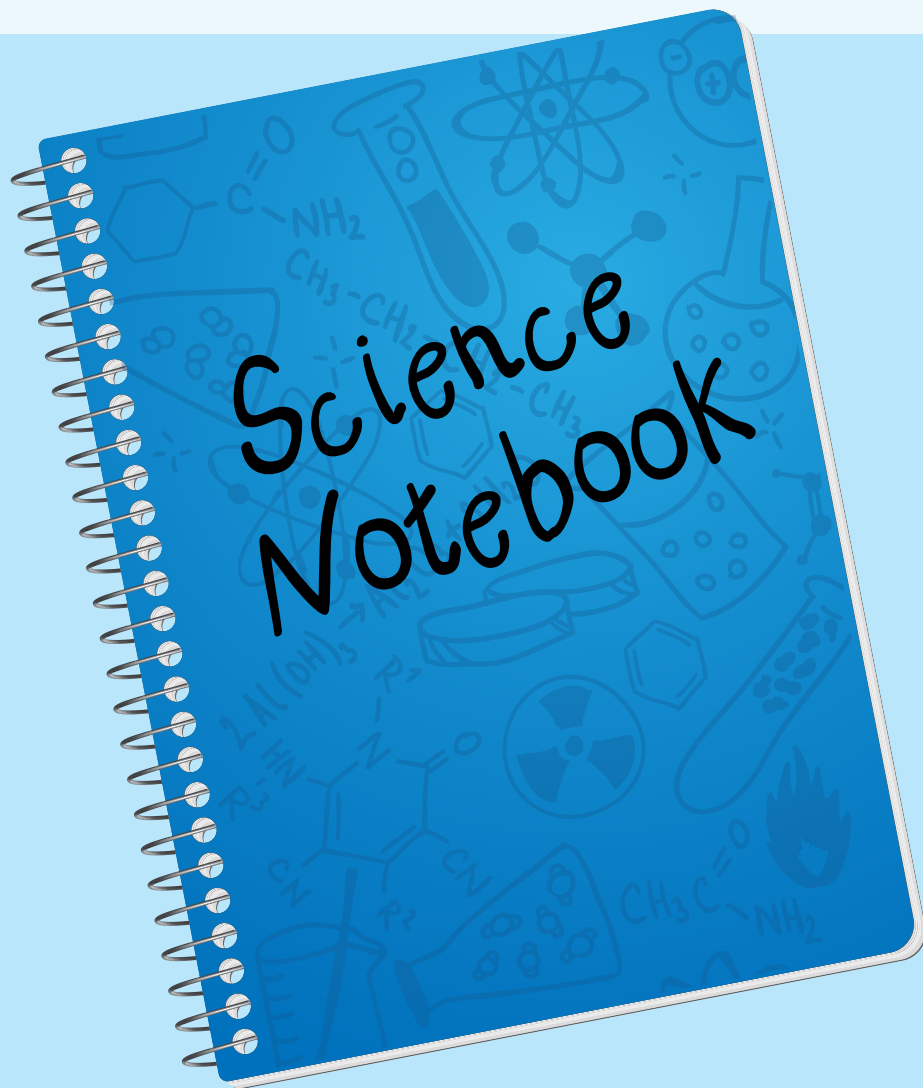
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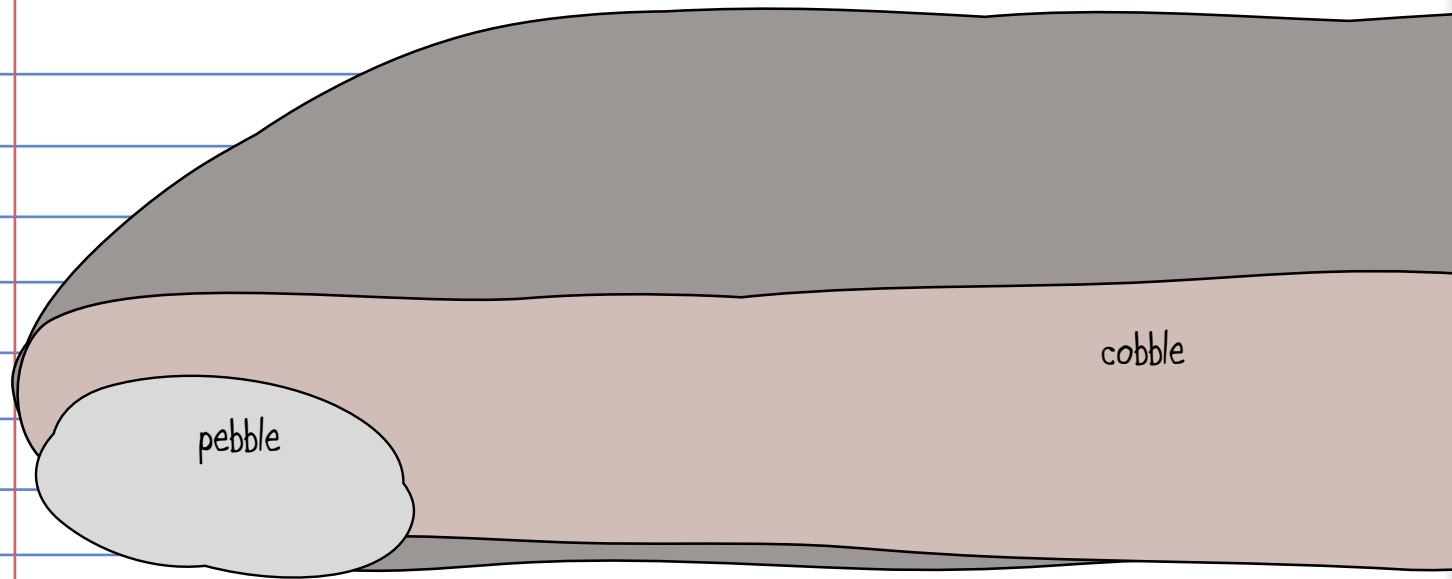
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At the beginning of the school year, I found a science notebook in my desk. The notebook was obviously left behind by whoever sat in my desk last year. It was full of notes and illustrations!

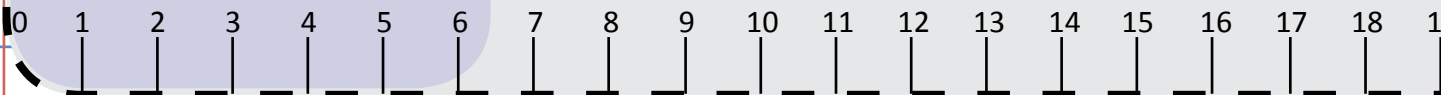


I like to look in the notebook to see what we will learn next. My teacher said we will study rocks next week, so I thought I would check the notebook.

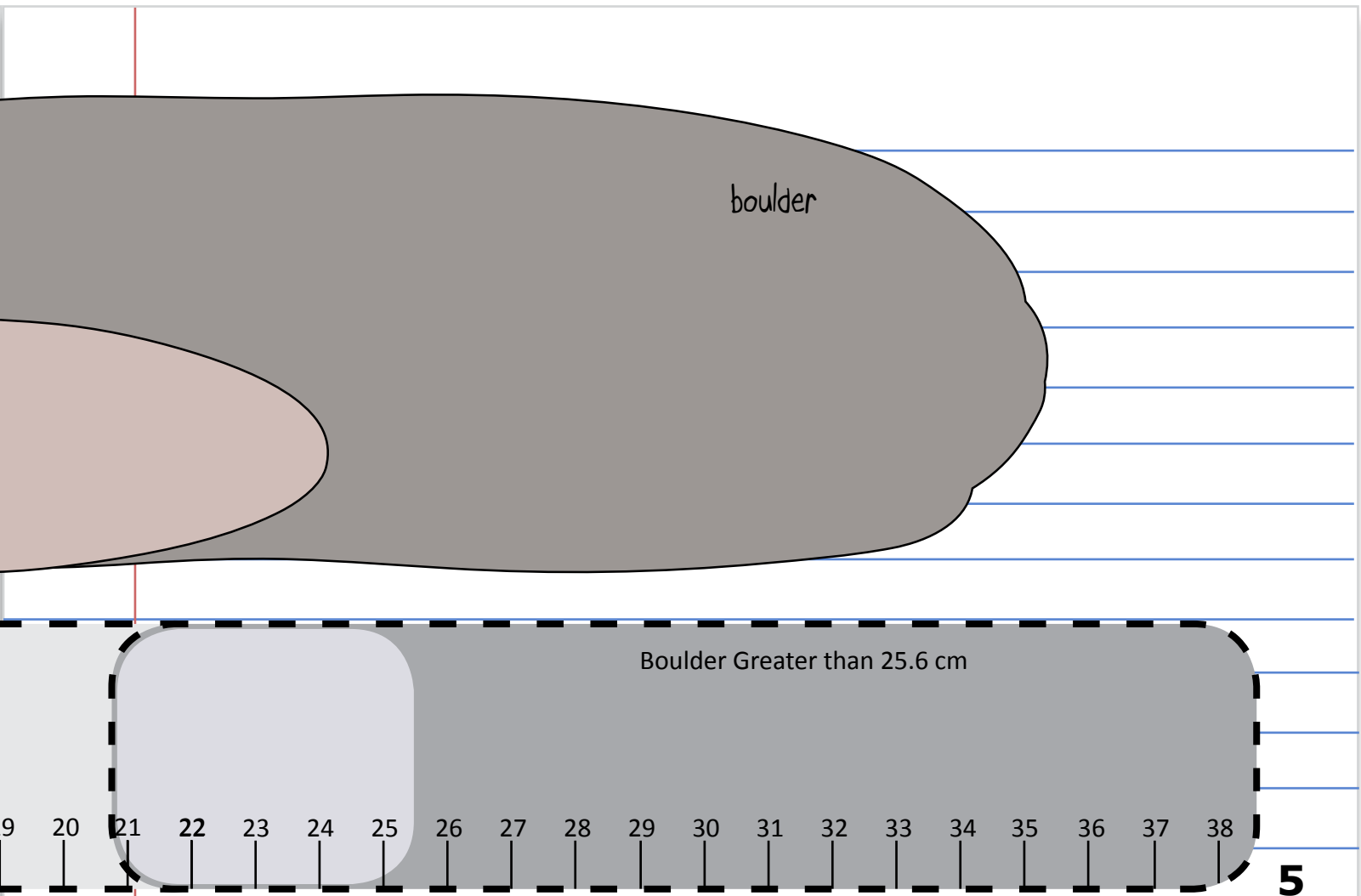


Pebble 0.2–6.4 cm

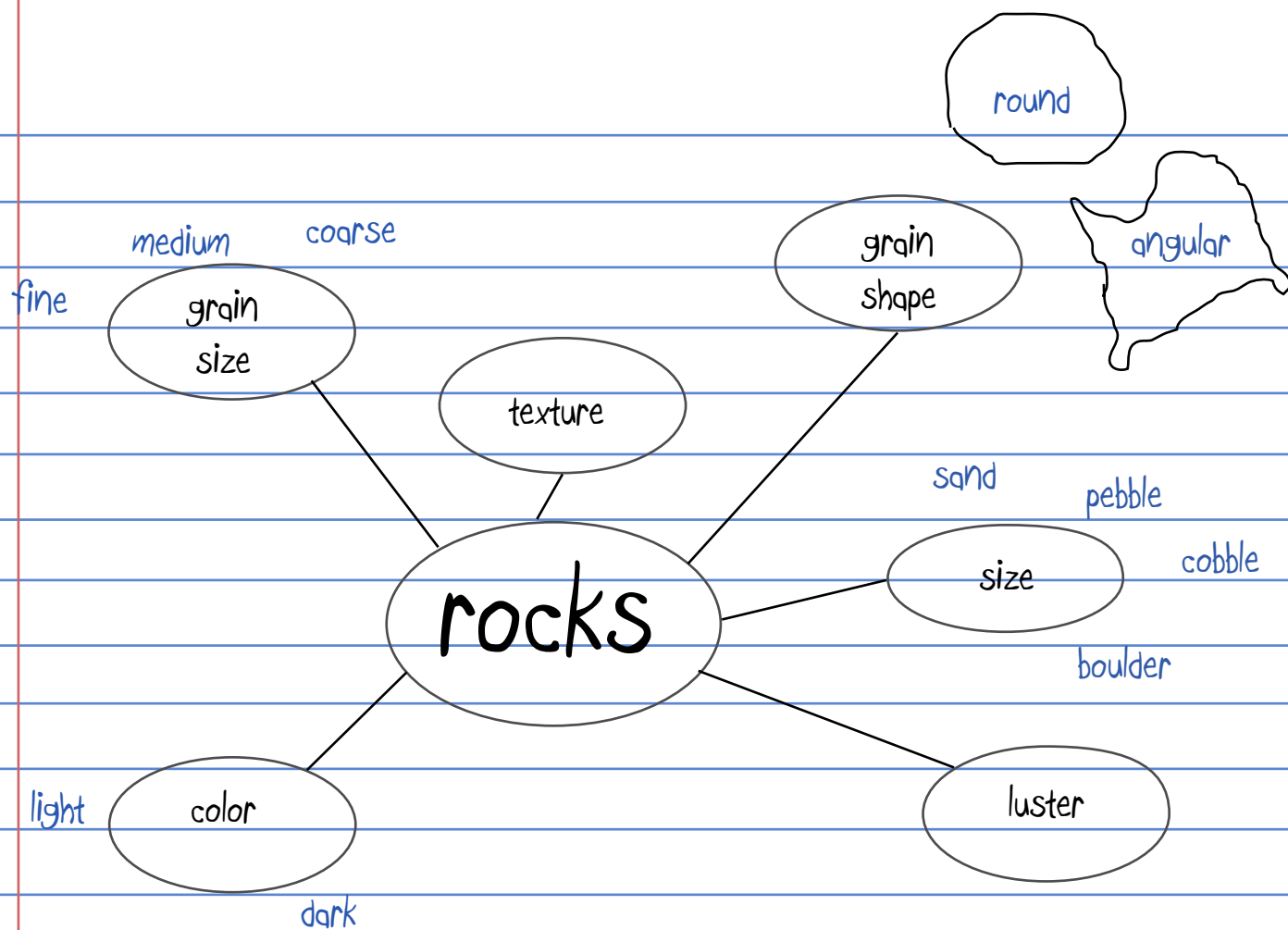
Cobble 6.4–25.6 cm



I remember exploring rocks in kindergarten. A grain of sand is a tiny piece of rock. Pebbles are small rocks. Cobbles are medium-size rocks. Boulders are big rocks.



I like rocks, but I don't know much about them.





It looks like we will observe and describe rocks and learn some new words.

November 12

Geo = Earth

ology = study of

ologist = scientist who studies



Geologist: a scientist who studies Earth  
A geologist observes and describes rocks.

I can observe and describe rocks.

It is black.

It has white spots.

It is smooth and lumpy.

It is shiny.

# Rocks have grains.

November 13

A grain is the smallest part that makes up a rock. Different rocks have different-sized grains.

You use your sense of touch to identify and describe the texture of a rock. Geologists observe the grains of a rock to describe its texture.



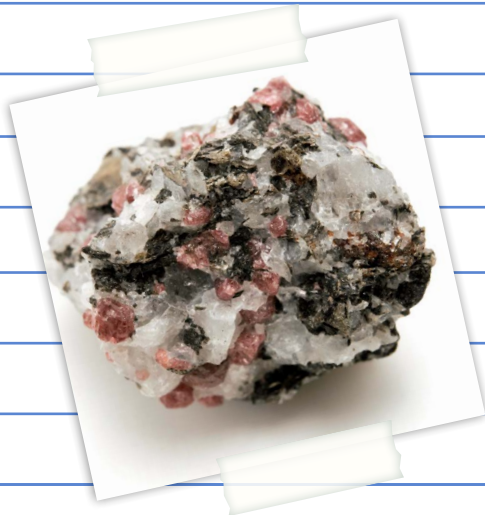
I use words like *rough* and *smooth* to describe texture, but geologists use different words.

## Texture: grain size

November 13

Geologists use the word *texture* to describe the way the grains are arranged in a rock and the size of the grains compared to one another.

Words that describe grain size: coarse, medium, fine



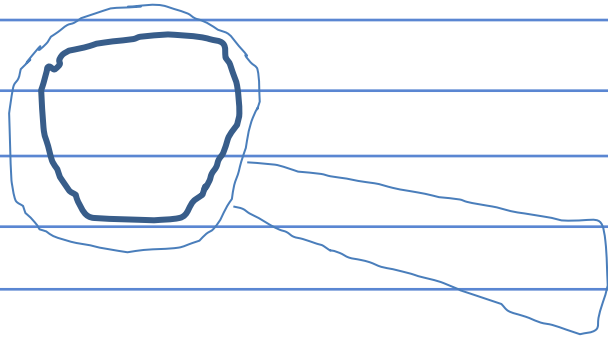
Coarse-grain rocks, like granite, may feel rough to the touch, and you can see the grains with just your eyes.

# Texture: grain size

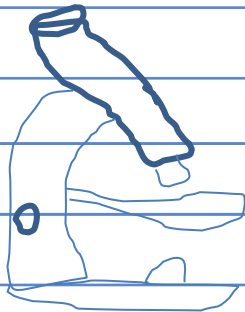
November 14

You need a hand lens to see medium grains because they are smaller than coarse grains.

gneiss (sounds like "nice")



You need a microscope to see fine grains in rocks like marble because they are tiny.

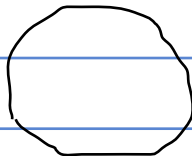


# Texture: grain shape

November 14

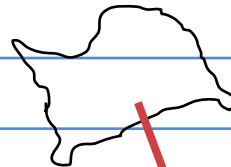
Geologists use the words *round* and *angular* to describe the texture, or shape, of the grains in a rock.

Round grains



Conglomerate has round grains.

Angular grains



Breccia has angular grains.

I would say this rock is rough, and a geologist would describe it as a coarse-grain rock with angular grains.



coarse grains



I guess this smooth rock would be described as a fine-grain rock with round grains.



fine grains





# Color

November 15

Geologists use words like *red*, *brown*, or *black* to describe the color of rocks. They also use the words *light*, *medium*, and *dark* to describe the color of rocks. You may notice that many rocks have several colors. Use the color you see the most to describe a rock.

Light



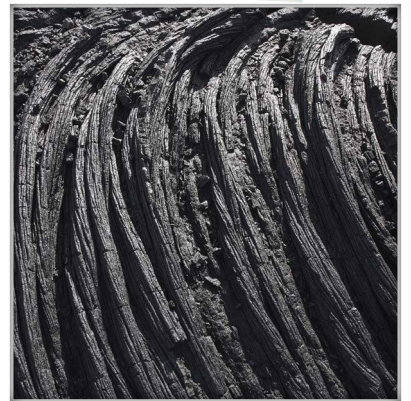
This limestone is tan and light colored.

Medium



This rock is brown and medium colored.

Dark



This basalt is black and dark colored.



# Luster

November 15

Geologists use the word *luster* to describe the way light is reflected off the surface of a rock.

Words that describe luster: dull and shiny

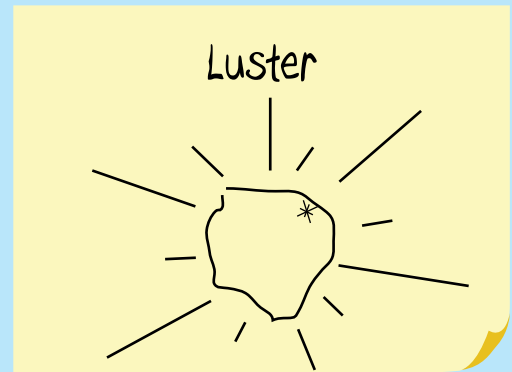


Gneiss is mostly dull. I think this rock is neat because it looks like a sandwich.

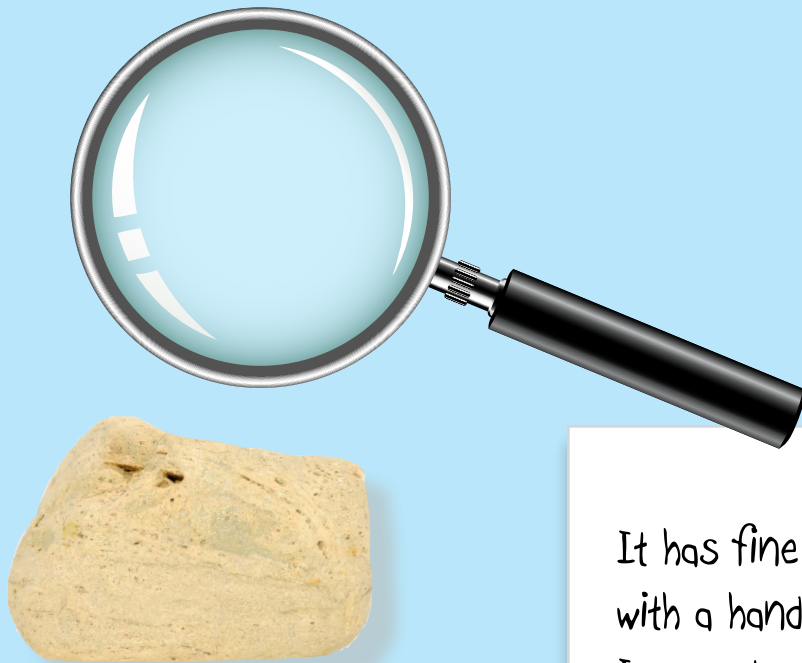


Obsidian is black and has a shiny, glassy luster.

I have never heard the word *luster*, but I can tell if something is shiny or dull. Now I can describe these rocks I found.



I am going to practice being a geologist and describe a few rocks. A geologist describes grain size and grain shape. They also describe color and luster, so I will, too.



It has fine grains. I cannot see the grains with a hand lens.

I cannot see the grain shape.

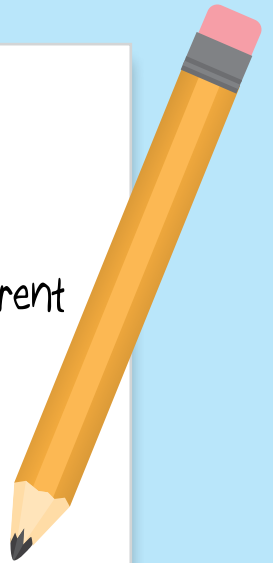
It is light colored. It looks a little peachy.

It has a dull luster.





It has coarse grains.  
The grains are angular shaped.  
It is light colored. It has several different  
colors.  
It is mostly shiny.



I am going to save my descriptions in my notebook until we describe rocks in class. I cannot wait!

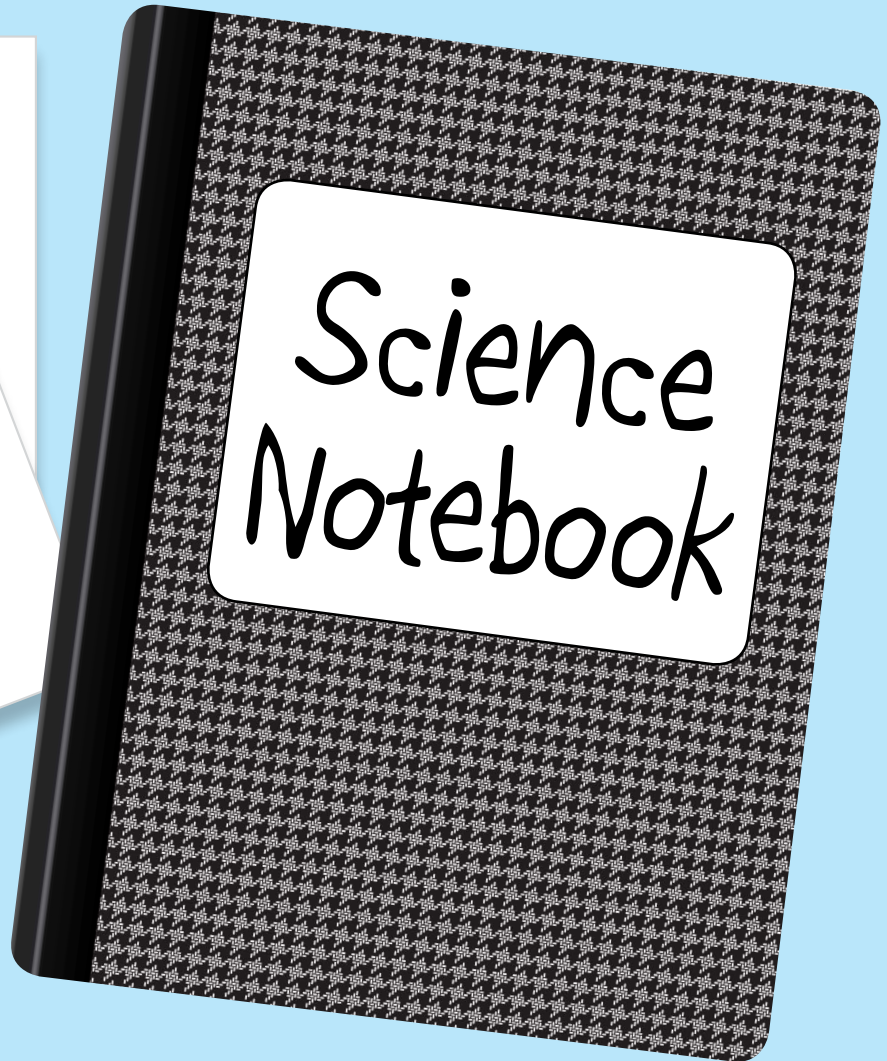
It has coarse grains.

The grains are angular shaped.

It is light colored. It has several different colors.

It is mostly shiny.

It has fine grains. I cannot see the grains with a hand lens.  
I cannot see the grain shape.  
It is light colored. It looks a little peachy.  
It has a dull luster.



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