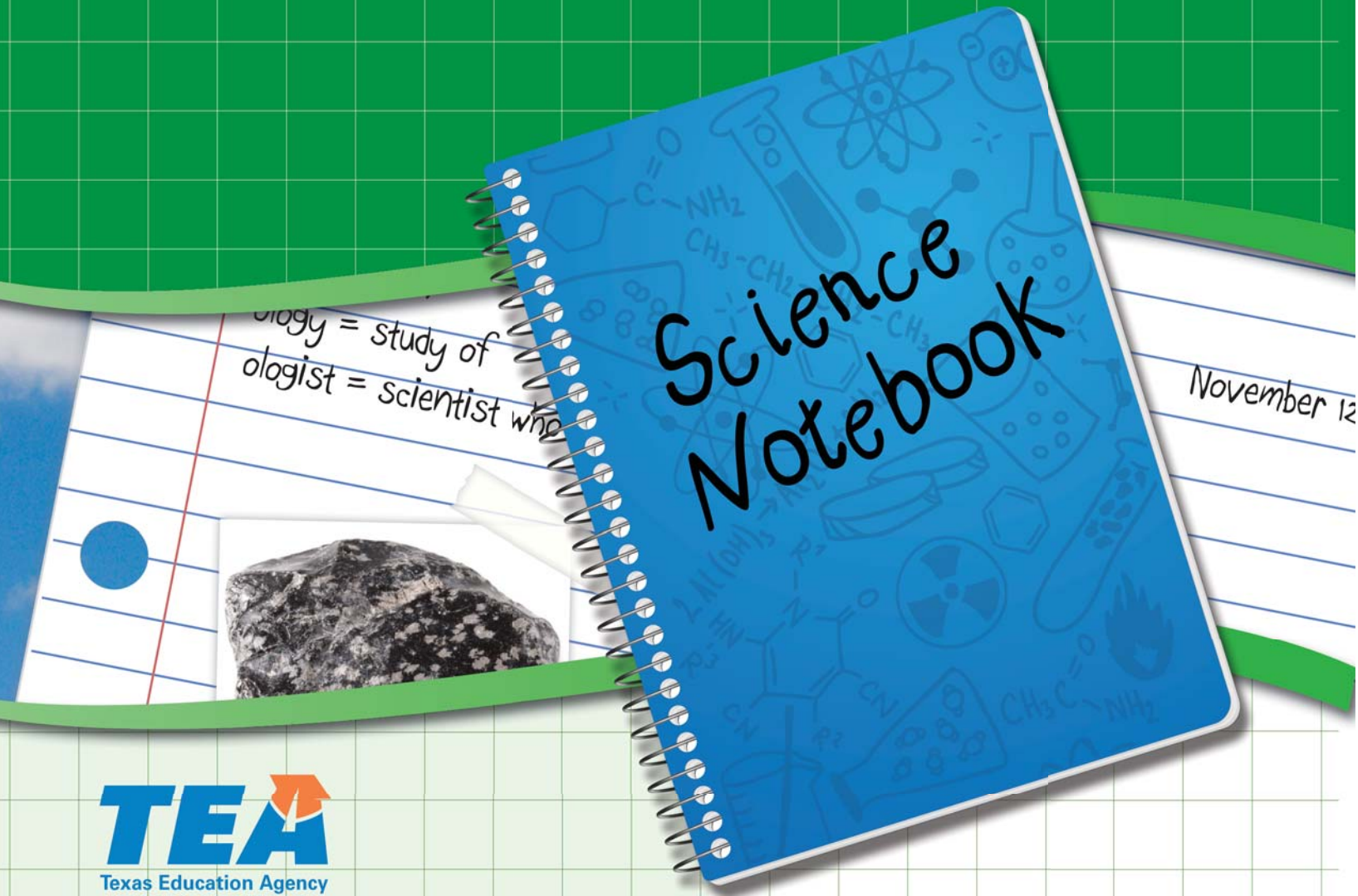
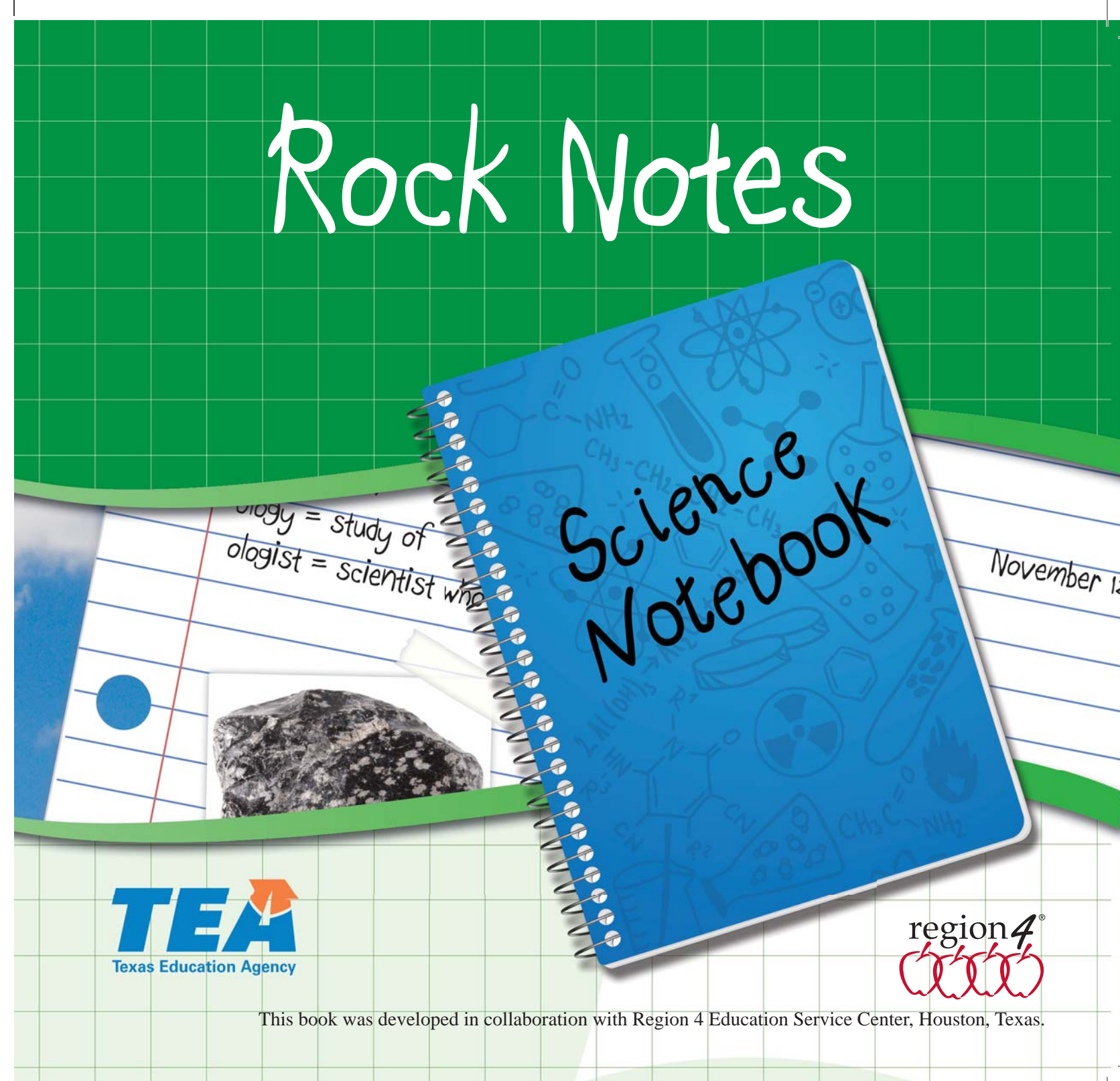


Rock Notes



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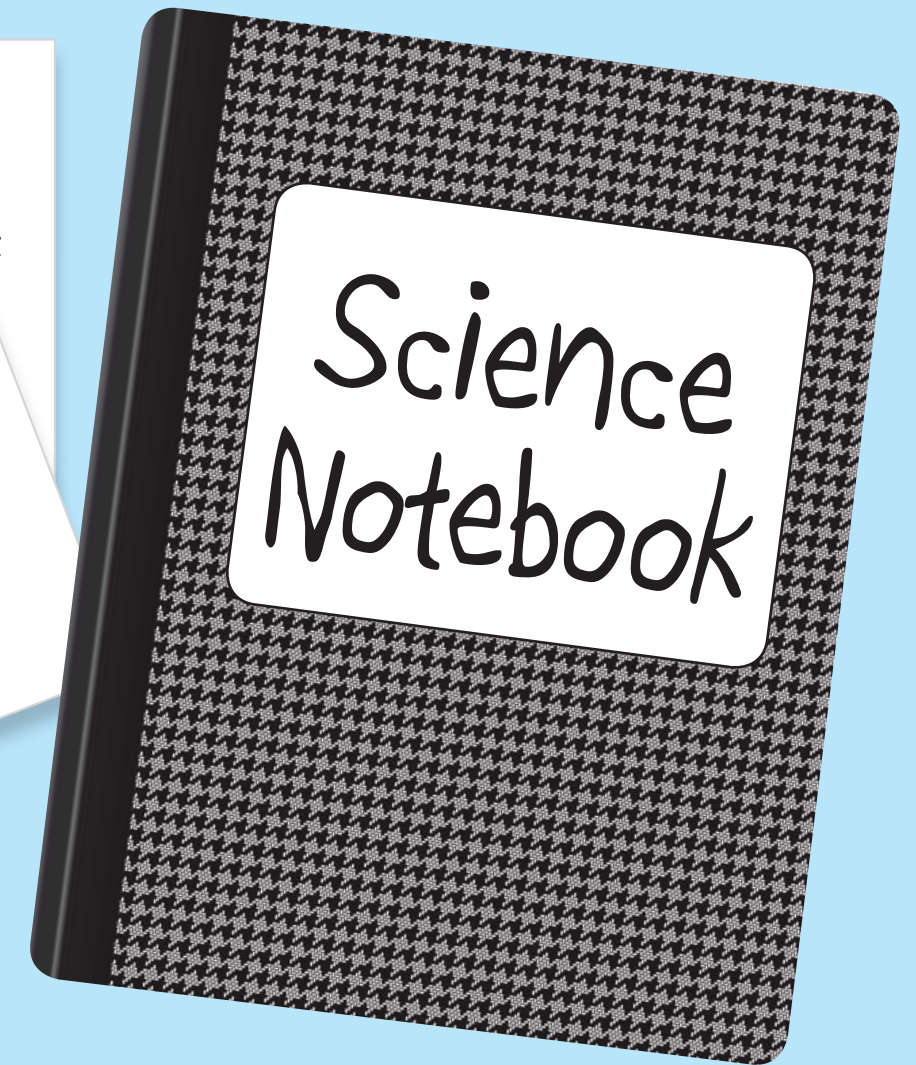
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I am going to save my descriptions in my notebook until we describe rocks in class. I cannot wait!

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

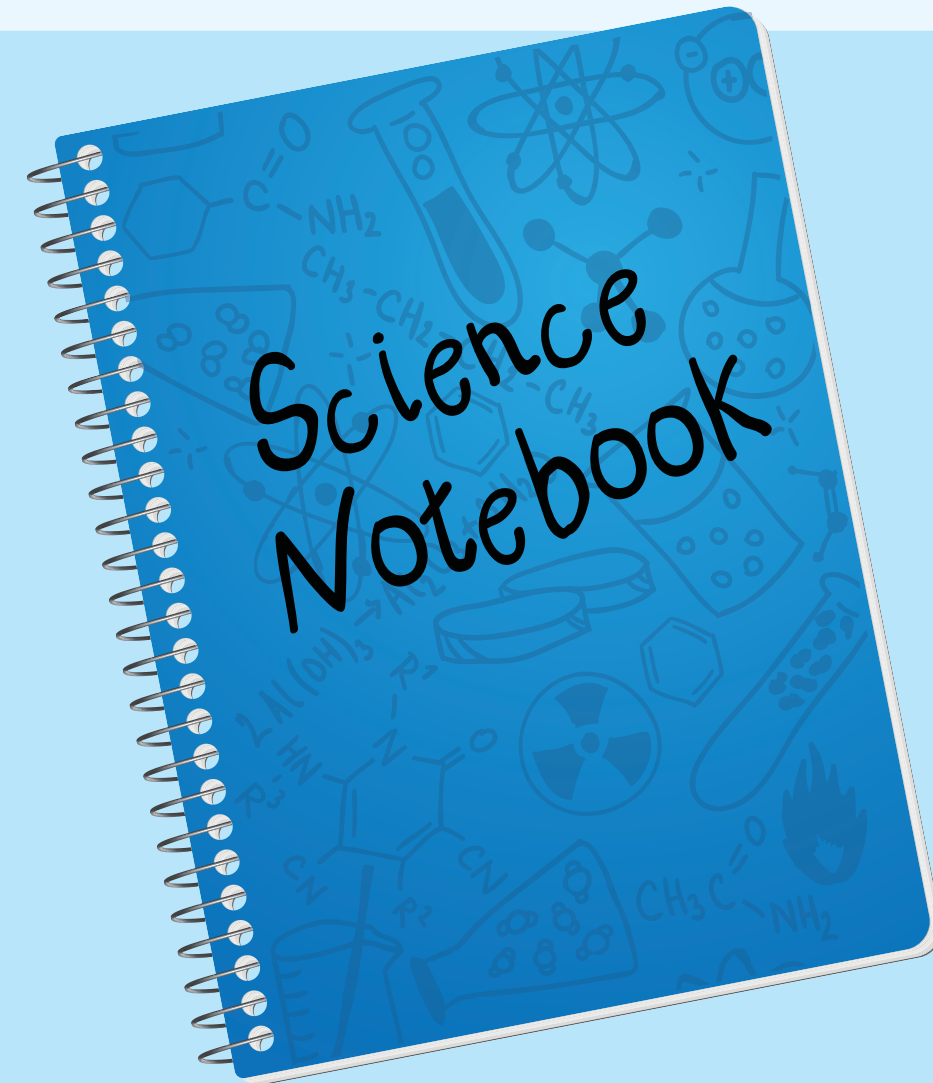
It has fine grains. I cannot see the grains with a hand lens.
I cannot see the grain shape.
It is light colored. It looks a little peachy.
It has a dull luster.



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!

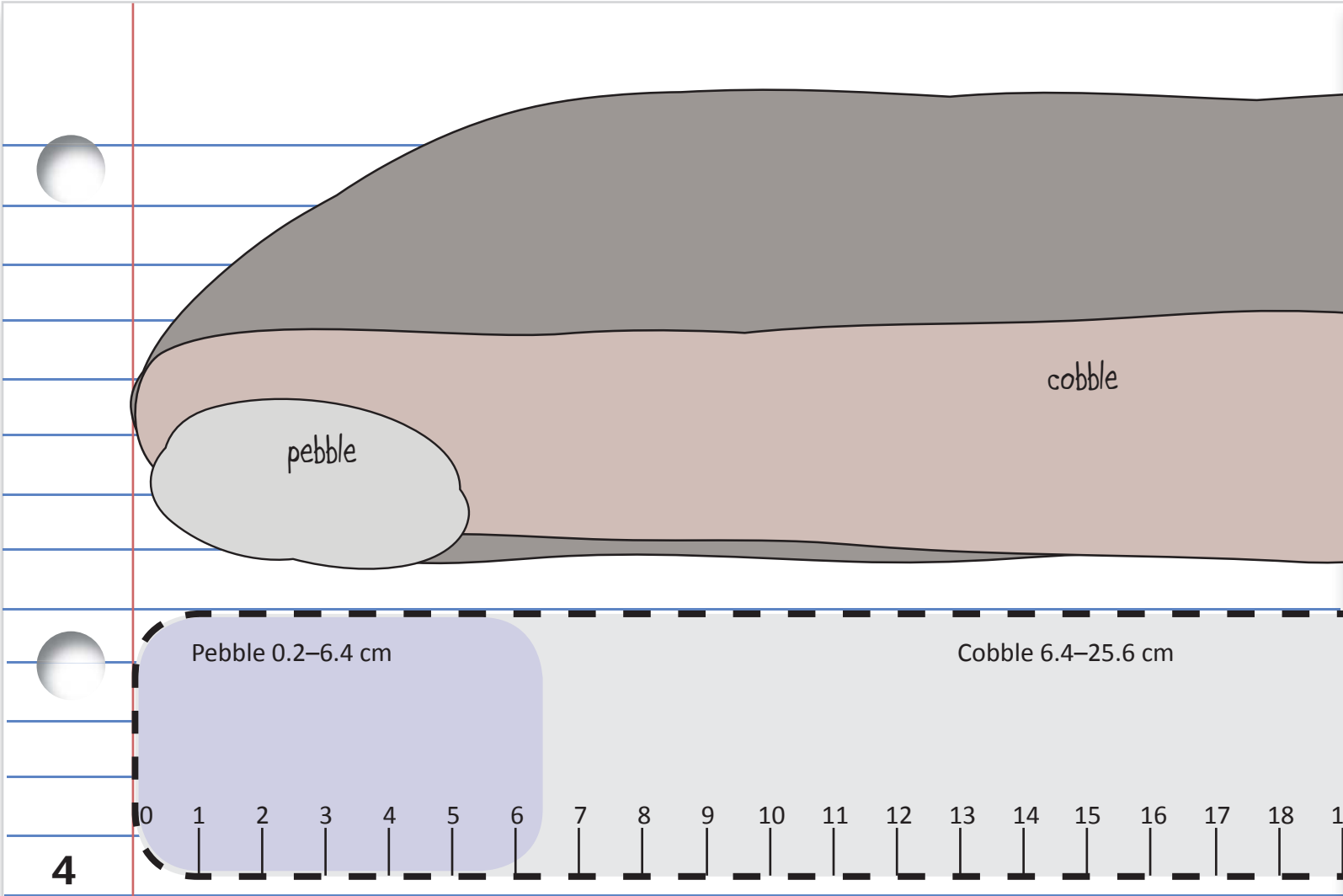


It has coarse grains.
The grains are angular shaped.
It is light colored. It has several different colors.
It is mostly shiny.



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.

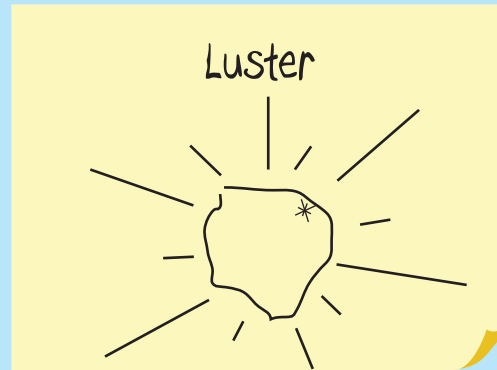
I am going to practice being a geologist and describe a few rocks. A geologist describes grain size and grain shape. They also describe color and luster, so I will, too.



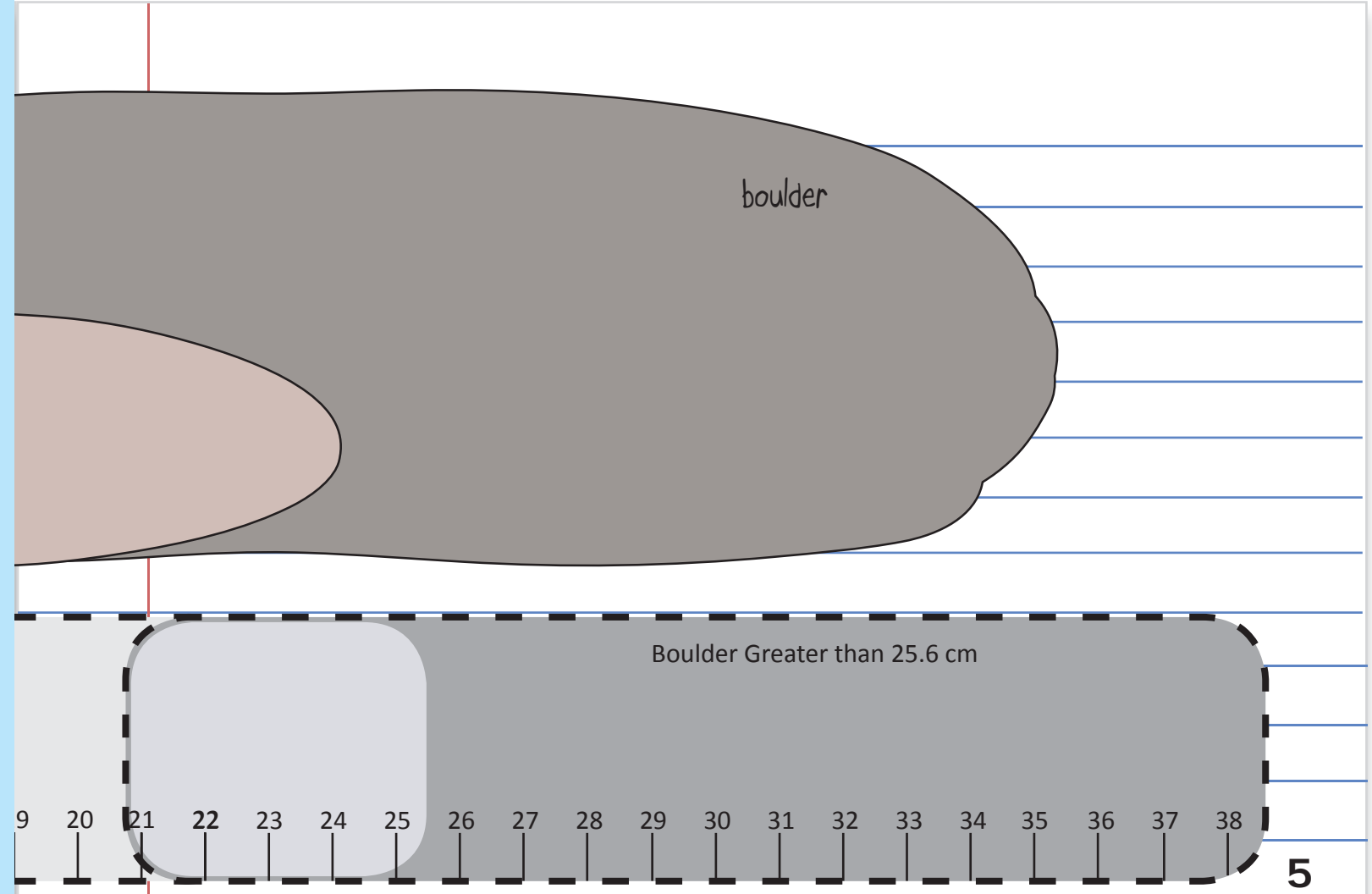
It has fine grains. I cannot see the grains with a hand lens.
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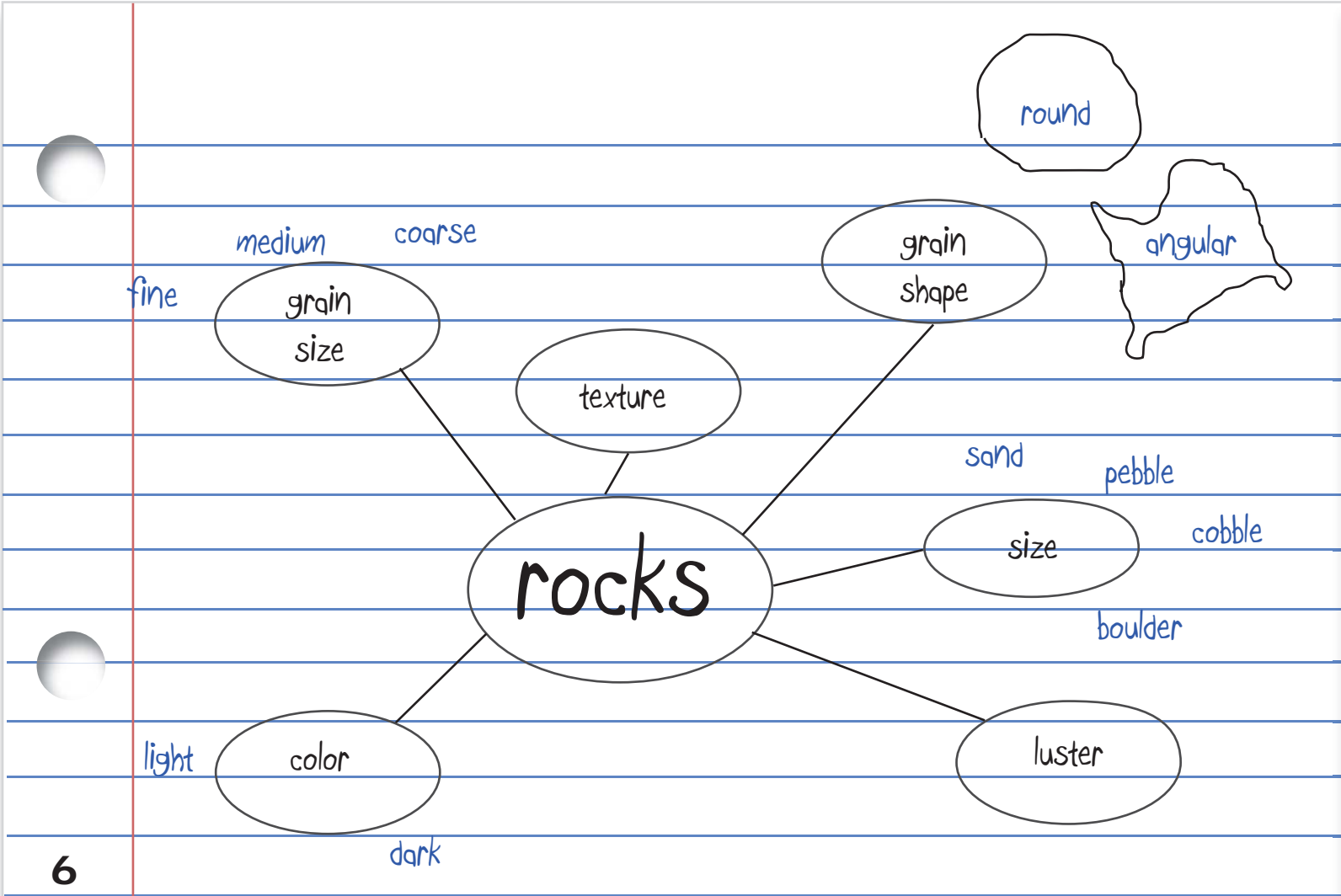
I have never heard the word *luster*, but I can tell if something is shiny or dull. Now I can describe these rocks I found.



I 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.



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.

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.

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



fine 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 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



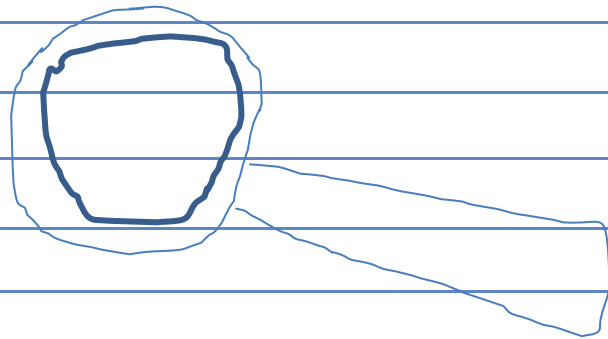
Coarse-grain rocks, like granite, may feel rough to the touch, and you can see the grains with just your eyes.

Texture: grain size

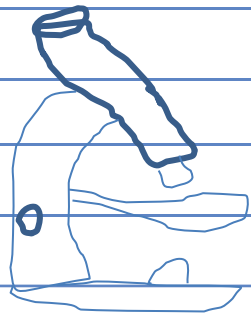
November 14

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.

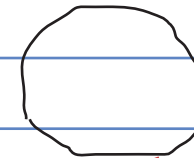


Texture: grain shape

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.