

## Mineral Detectives Answer Key

Mineral	Common colors	Streak	Luster	Texture	Hardness
Fluorite	Variable: yellow, green, white, blue	White	Glassy, shiny	Bumpy, slightly rough	4 Scratched by nail
Calcite	Usually white but also could be colorless	White	Glassy, shiny	Distinct edges, smooth faces	3 Scratched by penny
Copper	Copper-red, but turns to black or green in air	Reddish	Some shiny, metallic-looking crystals, but mostly dull	Rough and bumpy, with sharp points	2.5 – 3 Scratched by penny
Sulfur	Yellow to amber	Yellow	Not shiny, dull	Some smooth faces with rough edges, distinct edges. Leaves residue behind	1.5 - 2.5 Scratched by fingernail
Graphite	Silver to grey	Black	Metallic looking, greasy, a little shiny	Greasy feel, leaves residue behind	1 - 2.5 Scratched by fingernail
Talc	Light to dark green, white, grey, beige	White	Dull, greasy, waxy	Soapy, greasy feel, leaves residue behind	1 Scratched by fingernail