

ROCK STATION ACTIVITY

GNEISS

Gneiss, comes from the german word gneist, which means to sparkle. It is a coarse-grained metamorphic rock known for its distinct banded appearance, featuring alternating light and dark mineral layers. The lighter bands often contain quartz and feldspar, while the darker bands include minerals like biotite, hornblende, or garnet. These layers form due to the intense heat and pressure that recrystallize the minerals in pre-existing rocks, such as granite or shale. Gneiss typically has a rough texture and is found in various shades of gray, pink, or brown depending on its mineral composition.



Gneiss is commonly found in areas with ancient, deeply buried rock formations, such as mountain ranges and continental shields, including the Appalachian Mountains and parts of Canada. It is widely used in construction for building stones, countertops, and gravestones due to its durability and aesthetic appeal. Gneiss is one of the oldest known rocks and its formation provides scientists insights into the processes and the tectonic activity that

Students learn
more about
Igneous,
Metamorphic and
Sedimentary
Rocks!

