# Description

***Geology*Distance Learning – High School Activity**

**Mineral Resources in Smartphones**

This activity is a short, self-guided research project focusing on the most common mineral resources that make up smartphones and other consumer electronics. Students will focus on one of ten suggested critical elements and investigate that element in the context of industry, addressing such points as how the element is mined and refined.

# Deliverables

A short (<1 page) summary report of findings that addresses the checklist of points suggested in the handout (example report provided in student handout).

You may elect to modify this checklist to emphasize different topics or change the scope of the project. You might also require that students construct a “Works Cited” or “References” page and reference their sources with in-text parenthetical citations.

# Standards Correlation

EEn.2.2 – Understand how human influences impact the lithosphere.

EEn.2.8 – Evaluate human behaviors in terms of how likely they are to ensure the ability to live sustainably on Earth.

ISTE.3 – Students critically create a variety of resources using digital tools to construct knowledge, produce creative artifacts, and make meaningful learning experiences for themselves and others.

W.11-12.2 – Write informative/explanatory texts to examine and convey complex ideas, concepts, and information clearly and accurately through the effective selection, organization, and analysis of content.

# For More Information

Please contact the North Carolina Geological Survey’s outreach specialist Will Blocher at [william.blocher@ncdenr.gov](mailto:william.blocher@ncdenr.gov) or visit our Geoscience Education page at <https://deq.nc.gov/about/divisions/energy-mineral-land-resources/north-carolina-geological-survey/geoscience-education>

We’d love to hear from you!  
Please give us feedback [here](https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=3IF2etC5mkSFw-zCbNftGeRWa4Q1AflMpi39Z4cQtn9UNDkyRTRLRjVGNVU3V0RMVDNPSUFSODc4Ry4u) so we can better serve you and your students.