

4th grade Science Vocabulary Words

Pole – the place on a magnet where the pull is the strongest

Attract – to draw to itself

Repel – to force back

Conductor – a material through which electricity flows easily

Electricity – moving electrical current

Igneous – “fire made” rock, formed from melted rock material

Sedimentary – rock made of sediments cemented together

Metamorphic – rock formed by heat and pressure

Mineral – a naturally occurring substance, neither plant nor animal

Erosion – the wearing away of soil and rock particles by waves, wind, running water, or glaciers

Weathering – to discolor, disintegrate or affect injuriously, as by the effects of weather

Streak – the color of a mineral’s streak when using a streak plate

Hardness – the number on the Mohr’s scale representing the hardness of a mineral

Fossil – any evidence of an organism that lived in the past

Lava – the molten, fluid rock that comes from a volcano or volcanic vent

Population – all of one type of organism living in an area

Environment – the air, water, minerals, organisms and all other external factors surrounding and affecting an organism at any given time

Habitat – the home of an organism

Instinct – behavior that is inborn not learned

Organism – a living thing that carries out the five basic life functions on its own

Absorb – to take in without reflection

Axis – the line about which the earth turns

Beneficial – helpful

Charge – the positive or negative property of an atom

Cleavage – the natural splitting of rocks or minerals along the planes of weakness

Earthquake – series of vibrations in the earth's crust

Inherited Behavior – a behavior that is inborn, passed on from a parent

Magnetism – the force that causes a magnet to attract materials

Orbit – the curved path of a planet or satellite around a celestial body, such as the earth around the sun

Reflect – to cast back from a surface

Rotation – the movement of the earth turning on its axis

Solar Energy – energy derived from the sun

South Poles – one end of a magnet where the pull is the strongest, attracts the North Pole of another magnet

North Poles – one end of a magnet where the pull is the strongest, attracts the South Pole of another magnet

Volcanic Eruption – the sudden discharge of steam and lava from a volcano