BRIDGES™

Iron



Find out why iron was once more valuable than gold.

Benchmark EDUCATION

GEORGE CAPACCIO

SCIENCE & MATH
Rocks and Minerals
Level 34 O

For teachers' inspection ONLY

READING

Comprehension Skill:
Make Inferences

As you read, look for one or two clues and pieces of evidence that help you make inferences. Inferences are not stated in the book and might not be true.

Phonics/Word Study:
r-controlled **o**

As you read, look for words with **r**-controlled **o**, like **borders**. This sound in a syllable rhymes with the word **door**.

Look for these text and graphic features.

Text Features

- Table of Contents
- Introduction
- Sidebars
- Conclusion
- Glossary
- Index
- Information about the author
- Vocabulary words in boldfaced type
- Captions for photos, diagrams, and illustrations
- Checkpoints. Check yourself to see that you understand what you have read. Pages 7, 27

Graphic Features

- Photographs
- Labeled diagrams. Pages 10, 21, 28
- Charts. Pages 5, 16, 23
- Map. Page 11

SCIENCE

The Big Idea:
This book tells you about iron. Learn how iron is made and where it comes from.

Look for these special information features.

Content Sidebars

- It's a Fact. Pages 6, 17
- Historical Perspective. Pages 4, 19, 24
- Careers. Page 11
- They Made a Difference. Page 21
- Everyday Science. Page 9
- Eyewitness Account. Page 26
- Solve This. Pages 10, 12, 16, 23,
- In My Opinion. Page 14

Content Vocabulary

alloy	element	mantle	molten
bloom	formula	meteorite	ore
compound	malleable	mineral	property

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by George Capaccio

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Table of Contents

Pictures To Think About i
Words To Think About iii
Introduction 2
Chapter 1 The Nature of Iron 4
Chapter 2 Where Iron Is Found 10
Chapter 3 The Uses of Iron 16
Chapter 4 Iron and Steel 22
Conclusion 29
Solve This Answers 30
Glossary 31
Index 32



Pictures To Think About

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Words To Think About

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compound

What do you think the word **compound** means?

Characteristics

- mixture
- has two or more elements
- ?

Examples

- water
- hematite
- ?

mineral

What do you think the word **mineral** means?

What are some facts about **minerals**?

- 4,000 in all
- ?
- make up the rocks on Earth

What are some **minerals**?

- silver
- ?
- gold

Read for More Clues
bloom, page 17
compound, page 5
mineral, page 6

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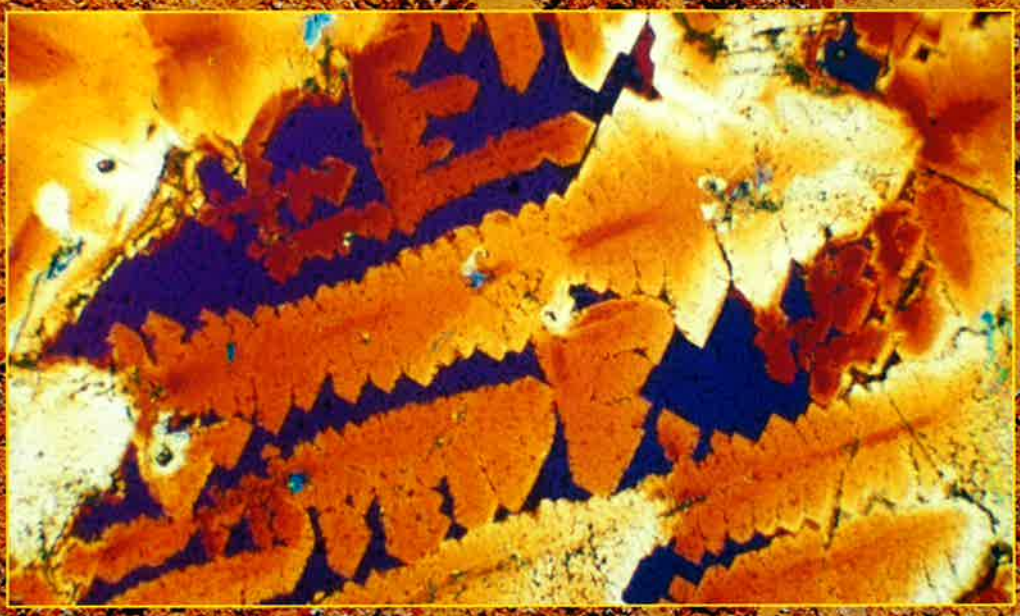
bloom

What do you think the word **bloom** means in this book?

Meaning 1
to produce or yield flowers (verb)

Meaning 2
a soft, partly melted lump of iron (noun)

Meaning 3
a powdery coating on fruit or leaves (noun)



Introduction



▲ Iron is used to make many different products.

People have used iron for about 5,000 years. At first, iron was hard to find. People thought iron was worth more than gold. People made jewelry and weapons with iron. It was hard to work with. In time, people found ways to melt iron. People started to mine iron. Iron became more common. People began to use it to make everyday items.

Today, iron is used to make cars, buildings, and bridges. Iron is also used to make cans and computers.

In this book you will read about iron. You will learn all about this **element** (EH-luh-mihnt). An element is a basic material. It cannot be broken down into something simpler.

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