

TEST YOUR KNOWLEDGE

Mineral Match-Up

UD's Mineralogical Museum, located in Penny Hall, is a real gem. It has a nationally known mineral collection. Exhibits change often, as only a small portion of the sizable collection can be displayed at a time. Admission is free. Hours: Wed.-Sun., noon to 5 p.m.; Thurs., noon to 8 p.m. Visit www.udel.edu/museums to learn more.



Can you identify these natural sparklers?



1

TOURMALINE Number

Tourmaline comes in a variety of colors, with pink especially prized. California's Himalaya Mine was the source for the pink stone in the early 1900's. The last empress of China bought almost a ton of it to make toggle-like buttons, snuff boxes and more. She was even buried with a carved pillow made from this gem.



2

RHODOCROSITE Number

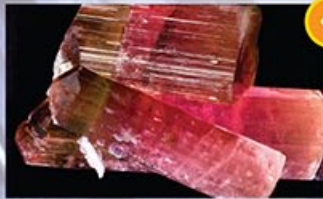
First found in the silver mines of Romania, rhodocrosite is a very soft, banded stone that is used to make inexpensive stainless steel and aluminum alloys, as well as jewelry. Colorado's Sweet Home Mine produced many fabulous specimens.



3

SILLIMANITE Number

The state mineral of Delaware, it is used in the glass industry. It is named after Benjamin Silliman (1779-1864), a professor at Yale who was the first to distill petroleum.



4

MALACHITE Number

This mineral is often formed from the weathering of copper ore. A gift from Czar Nicholas, the giant tazza, a saucer mounted on a footed base in the Linda Hall Library in Kansas City, Mo., is one of the largest pieces of malachite in North America.



5

AMETHYST Number

The ancient Greeks and Romans put a piece of this stone at the bottom of their wine goblets when drinking to protect from getting drunk. Medieval soldiers wore it as an amulet for protection in battle. Crystals of it have been found across the U.S. East Coast.



Check out the answers!

1 — RHODOCROSITE 2 — AMETHYST 3 — MALACHITE 4 — TOURMALINE 5 — SILLIMANITE