Rocks Minerals & Gems

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A visual catalog of rocks, minerals, and gems, this book features full and half-page images of various rocks along with information on them. The informational chart on the left side of each page includes the hardness, luster, where the rock can be found, how it breaks, its level of transparency, uses, and more. For some rocks featured in this book, photos of its varied appearances are included. Historic uses by man are included in the side notes and subheadings, alongside brief facts.

This book is concise in its descriptions, and very legible despite the many photo backgrounds. The pictures are regularly stunning in their quality, and give a good idea of what the rock or mineral would be like if you were holding it yourself. For the level of information included, this book does a great job of not getting bogged down with technical terms because of the way the text is arranged alongside images. The soft cover makes this book ideal for both casual browsing and careful study.