

NAME _____

IGNEOUS ROCK LAB

A long time ago you brought it four rocks. You based your selection on how many colors the rock had. Most of the samples you brought it were igneous. We now know that igneous rocks can be separated into two major groups in one of two ways. The first is "Dark" and "Light." The dark samples are dark because they are formed from dark minerals, mostly iron (Fe) and Magnesium (Mg). Their density is high, so the original material probably came from deep within the Earth. They are called "Mafic." The light igneous rocks are mostly Aluminum (Al) and Silicon (Si). Their density is low, so the original material probably came from closer to the surface of the Earth. They are called "Felsic." The second major group is "Intrusive" and "Extrusive." Intrusive samples form slowly over thousands if not millions of years, and have visible crystals. Extrusive samples form quickly, in an instant or a few hours, or several days, and have no crystals. Take a walk and look at the samples that I've collected and put out for you. Complete the chart below, and as you look at the samples try to imagine their stories.

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[illegible]
