Chemists find path to 'new blue' in meteorite minerals

I chose to explore a National Science Foundation article, “Chemists find path to 'new blue' in meteorite mineral”, which discusses a new discovery of a pigment. This news article relates to the topics of minerals and their structures. Some of what we have studied includes the set definition of a mineral. I have learned that minerals are solid, have a specific structure (i.e. crystalline lattice), are solid, have specific composition, and like the new blue pigment found are inorganic.

Specific scientific details about this topic that we have studied include detailing the new blue’s “crystal structures, chemical bonding and physical properties” (NSF, 2019). The color of the mineral was dependent on its chemical composition and structure. Similar to how different minerals have their well-known colors.

This topic impacts the Earth because it is yet another example of how space exploration has enhanced the human experience. This research is pinnacle to the “future for designing durable and safe inorganic pigments” (NSF, 2019).

In terms of impacting our daily lives, this topic is applicable to paints and dye! While this may be a simple thought at first, imagine a department store without fun colors!

I was really drawn to this article because in high school I researched the impact of color dyes in Indian culture. I developed and executed my very own experiment in hopes of perfecting the dying process of fabrics in India. Also, how often do we hear about scientists discovering a new color? That makes this topic very news worthy to me!

Sources:

NSF (Ed.). (2019, December 31). Chemists find path to 'new blue' in meteorite minerals.

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