

## **Private Mineral Project**

### Notes for Instructor

The private mineral project is a chance for students to learn a lot about one mineral. They become an expert - often ending up with more knowledge than the instructor!

You can put just about anything you want into this project. In my class, they read current literature, gather data, write a paper, take photographs, collect X-rays, present a poster, prepare a web page, and other things. From their perspective, I think, the web page is the best part because they learn a skill and get a product they can show off to parents and friends easily.

This project is done in parts as the semester goes along. I assign the different parts at appropriate times. Sometimes they are assigned because they match the topics the class is covering. Other times, I assign parts of this project because there seems to be a "lull" in class activity.

One important key: You must keep track of the students as they work on this project. If they get behind they just cannot catch up at the end of the semester.