

the Rock Magnet news

For Rockhounds of All Ages

MHG&MS

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editor Mrs. ROCK

FLUORESCENCE

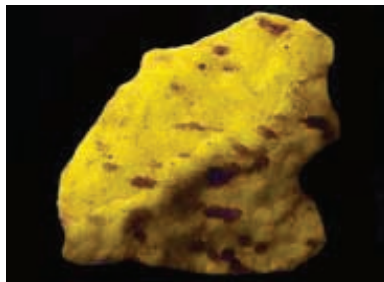
FLUORESCENCE is a very unique property of some gemstones, rocks, minerals, fossils and living things. These substances are capable of being stimulated by ultra-violet light rays, that part of the light spectrum humans cannot see. This fluorescent color is very different from daylight color. **LUMINESCENCE** is emission of light by a substance not resulting from heat; it is thus a form of cold body radiation.

We can make ultraviolet light with special bulbs and filters. This light can be either Long, Middle or Short wavelengths. The substance must have some type of activator in its structure for fluorescence to happen. We are familiar with "black light", it is Long wave and safe for our eyes. Short wave ultra-violet light can damage our eyes, that is why special goggles are needed if you are viewing fluorescence for any period of time. A person must never look into the SW light created by a Ultra-Violet Lamp.

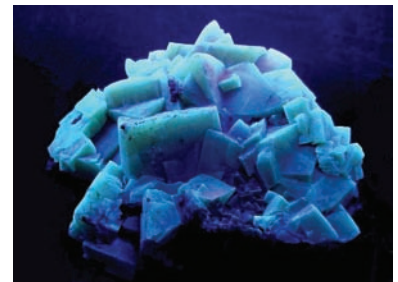
Some substances can "glow" for an extended length of time after the UV Lamp has been turned off, this light is called **PHOSPHORESCENCE**.



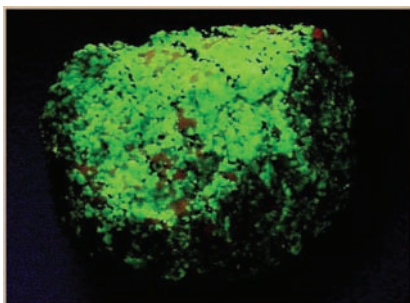
Willemite - Daylight



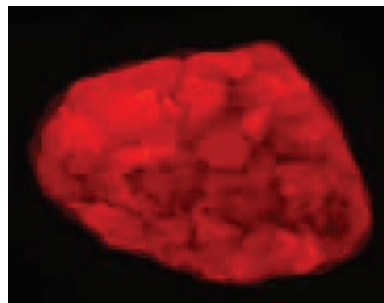
Scapolite- LW



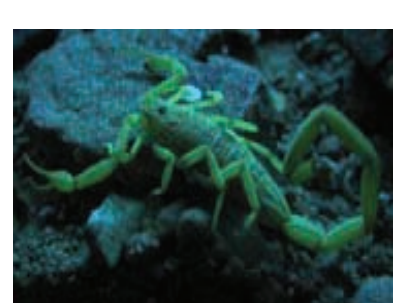
Fluorite - LW



Willemite - SW



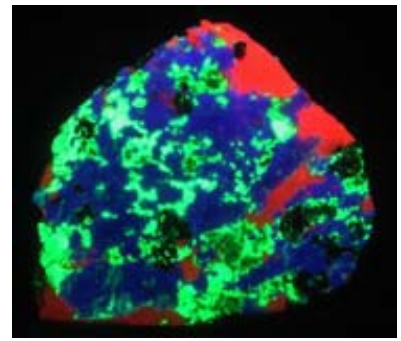
Calcite - SW



Me too - LW !



Daylight



In SW - UV Light

Draw a line from dot to dot following the numbers. You will find the mystery object!

