

BLM – Digging Deeper: Uranium Mining

Name: _____ Date: _____ Class: _____

Uranium Mining Matching Cards

This page will make enough cards for eight students. Photocopy the page in a different colour for each group of eight students. Cut along the solid and dashed lines and mix before distributing. If you have additional students, they could share cards.

Open-pit Mining	This type of mine is used when deposits of uranium are found fairly close to the surface of the Earth. It involves extracting the uranium from a large open pit or hole.
Strip Mining	This type of mine is used when deposits of uranium are found close to the Earth's surface. It involves mining a seam of uranium by removing long strips of overlying soil and rock.
Underground Mining	This type of mining is used when deposits of uranium are deep below the surface of the Earth. The uranium can be reached using a decline (a downward spiralling ramp), a vertical shaft or an adit (a horizontal excavation into the side of a hill or mountain).
In-situ Recovery Mining	This type of mining, also known as solution mining, involves leaving the uranium ore where it is in the ground. A solution is pumped down to the uranium, where it becomes dissolved. The solution containing the dissolved uranium is returned to the surface where it be recovered.