

A GUIDE TO THE EVERYDAY USES OF

BARIIUM

Barium is found in mineral barite, which is crystallized barium sulfate

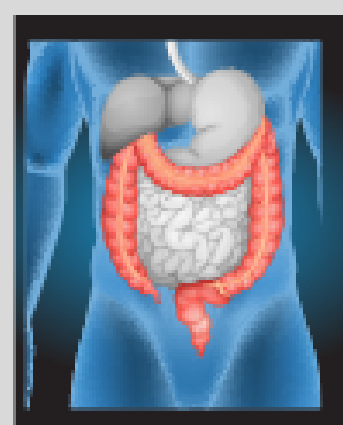
OIL & GAS INDUSTRY

The main use for barite is as a “weighting agent” in oil and natural gas drilling



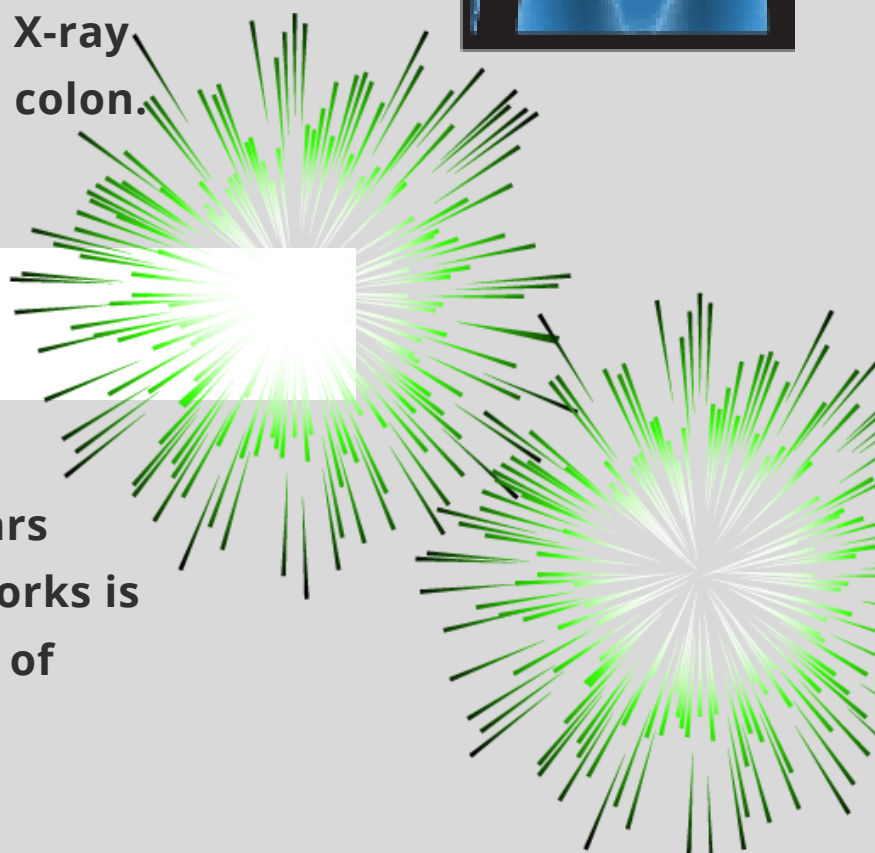
HEALTHCARE (XRAYs)

Barite has the unique ability to strongly absorb X-rays and gamma rays. Consequently, it is used in medical science for special X-ray tests on the intestines and colon.



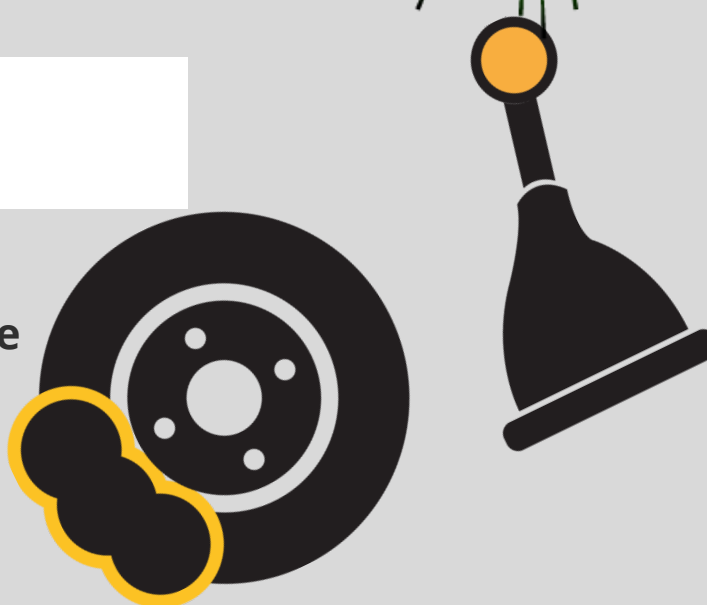
FIREWORKS

The green color that appears during the display of fireworks is attributed to the presence of barium nitrate in them



AUTOMOBILE PARTS

A more recent application of barite is in the production of brake pads and clutches for cars and trucks



PAINT & GLASS, ETC.

Barite is used as an additive to paints, enamels, and plastics, in the production of so-called “lead” crystal or “leaded” glass, stops radiation from computer monitors and television tubes, and as the source of barium chemicals

