Rock Identification Chart

**Start**

- **Texture:** Crystalline or clastic?
  - Yes: Limestone (should react with dilute HCl)
  - No: Can't tell

- **Composition:** Minerals?
  - Yes: Schist
  - No: Two or more mineral types

- **Texture:** Layered?
  - Yes: Schist
  - No: Granule or crystals too small to see

- **Hardness:** Scratches with fingernail?
  - Yes: Gypsum
  - No: Can't tell

- **Texture:** Grain size?
  - > 2 mm: Sandstone (may break into individual grains if not well cemented)
  - < 2 mm: Dolostone (powder should vigorously react with dilute HCl acid)

- **Acid test:** React with dilute HCl?
  - Yes: Limestone (may contain fossils)
  - No: Shale (should have thin horizontal layering or plating)

**Tools to Use**

- Hand lens
- Dilute hydrochloric acid (HCl)
- Steel nail