

# 6 Science Unit 1: Processes that Change Earth's Surface

Content Area: **Science**  
Course(s):  
Time Period: **Marking Period 3**  
Length: **12 Weeks**  
Status: **Published**

## Unit Overview

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### Earth's Systems

Kilauea is an active volcano in Volcanoes National Park, Hawaii. Every day energy flows through the volcano and moves matter in the form of hot, molten lava. Create an exhibit for the park using graphics, pictures, and text to explain these volcanic processes.

### Processes that Shape Earth

Companies that use natural resources to produce roses, energy, and bottled water want to relocate to a community. Students are on that community's "Board of Natural Resource Development" and must evaluate the needs of the three companies and decide which company they should fund.

### Earth's Processes Through Geologic Time

Different rock types are found around Devils Tower and the Black Hills National Forest. Learn about the formation of Devils Tower and act as National Forest Rangers to explain how the positions of these rock types relate to the way they were formed.

### The History of Life on Earth

Kilauea is an active volcano in Volcanoes National Park, Hawaii. Every day energy flows through the volcano and moves matter in the form of hot, molten lava. Create an exhibit for the park using graphics, pictures, and text to explain these volcanic processes.

### Earth's Natural Hazards

You are a civil engineer who must decide how three bridges will be built at three different locations in Placerville, CA. Each location may face different natural hazards over time. Your job is to review data to forecast which natural hazards these bridges will face during their lifetimes. Finally, you will use the forecast to recommend design criteria.

## Standards

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### Science and Engineering Practices

- Analyzing and Interpreting Data
- Asking Questions and Defining Problems
- Constructing Explanations and Designing Solutions
- Developing and Using Models
- Engaging in Argument from Evidence
- Obtaining, Evaluating, and Communicating Information
- Planning and Carrying Out Investigations
- Using Mathematics and Computational Thinking

### Crosscutting Concepts

- Cause and Effect
- Patterns
- Scale, Proportion, and Quantity
- Stability and Change
- Structure and Function
- Systems and System Models

SCI.MS-ESS1-4	Construct a scientific explanation based on evidence from rock strata for how the geologic time scale is used to organize Earth's 4.6-billion-year-old history.
SCI.MS-ESS2-1	Develop a model to describe the cycling of Earth's materials and the flow of energy that drives this process.
SCI.MS-ESS2-2	Construct an explanation based on evidence for how geoscience processes have changed Earth's surface at varying time and spatial scales.
SCI.MS-ESS2-3	Analyze and interpret data on the distribution of fossils and rocks, continental shapes, and seafloor structures to provide evidence of the past plate motions.
SCI.MS-ESS2-4	Develop a model to describe the cycling of water through Earth's systems driven by energy from the sun and the force of gravity.
SCI.MS-ESS3-1	Construct a scientific explanation based on evidence for how the uneven distributions of Earth's mineral, energy, and groundwater resources are the result of past and current geoscience processes.
SCI.MS-ESS3-2	Analyze and interpret data on natural hazards to forecast future catastrophic events and inform the development of technologies to mitigate their effects.
SCI.MS-ESS3-4	Construct an argument supported by evidence for how increases in human population and per-capita consumption of natural resources impact Earth's systems.
SCI.MS-ETS1-1	Define the criteria and constraints of a design problem with sufficient precision to ensure a successful solution, taking into account relevant scientific principles and potential impacts on people and the natural environment that may limit possible solutions.
SCI.MS-ETS1-2	Evaluate competing design solutions using a systematic process to determine how well they meet the criteria and constraints of the problem.
SCI.MS-ETS1-4	Develop a model to generate data for iterative testing and modification of a proposed object, tool, or process such that an optimal design can be achieved.

## Materials

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### Core Materials:

- TCI Planet Earth Text and Online Resources
  - The Earth-Sun-Moon System
  - The Solar System
  - The Solar System and Beyond
- Teacher Created Labs

### Supplemental Materials:

- [Gizmos](#)
- [BrainPop resources](#)
- [GRC Lessons](#)
- [Nearpod Activities](#)

## Technology

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CS.6-8.8.1.8.DA.1	Organize and transform data collected using computational tools to make it usable for a specific purpose.
CS.6-8.8.2.8.ED.2	Identify the steps in the design process that could be used to solve a problem.
CS.6-8.8.2.8.ED.3	Develop a proposal for a solution to a real-world problem that includes a model (e.g., physical prototype, graphical/technical sketch).
TECH.9.4.8.CT.1	Evaluate diverse solutions proposed by a variety of individuals, organizations, and/or agencies to a local or global problem, such as climate change, and use critical thinking skills to predict which one(s) are likely to be effective (e.g., MS-ETS1-2).
TECH.9.4.8.IML.1	Critically curate multiple resources to assess the credibility of sources when searching for information.

## Evidence of Learning/Assessment

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### Formative Assessment

- Teacher Observation
- Quizzes
- Exit Tickets
- Labs

### Summative Assessment

- Unit Tests
- Benchmark Tests
- Alternative Assessments: Performance Tasks & Projects

## **Accommodations & Modifications**

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### **Special Education**

*Follow IEP Plan which may contain some of the following examples...*

- In class/pull out support with special ed teacher
- Additional time during intervention time
- Preferred seating
- Questions read aloud
- Extended time for completing tasks
- Graphic organizers
- Vocabulary support
- Mnemonic devices
- Songs/videos to reinforce concepts
- Study Guides
- Limit number of questions
- Scribe
- Newsela leveled reading passages

### **504**

*Follow 504 Plan which may contain some of the following examples...*

- In class/pull out support with special ed teacher
- Additional time during intervention time
- Preferred seating
- Questions read aloud
- Extended time for completing tasks
- Graphic organizers
- Vocabulary support
- Mnemonic devices
- Songs/videos to reinforce concepts
- Study Guides
- Limit number of questions
- Scribe

### **ELL**

- Translation device/dictionary
- In class/pull out support with ESL teacher
- In class/pull out support with special ed teacher
- Additional time during intervention time
- Preferred seating
- Questions read aloud
- Extended time for completing tasks
- Graphic organizers
- Vocabulary support
- Mnemonic devices
- Songs/videos to reinforce concepts

- Study Guides
- Limit number of questions
- Scribe

### **At-risk of Failure**

- Extra time during intervention
- In class/pull out support with special ed teacher
- Additional time during intervention time
- Preferred seating
- Questions read aloud
- Extended time for completing tasks
- Graphic organizers
- Vocabulary support
- Mnemonic devices
- Songs/videos to reinforce concepts
- Study Guides
- Limit number of questions
- Scribe

### **Gifted & Talented**

- Independent projects
- STEM Projects

## **Interdisciplinary Connections**

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MATH.6.RP.A.1	Understand the concept of a ratio and use ratio language to describe a ratio relationship between two quantities.
ELA.L.KL.6.2.A	Acquire and use accurately grade-appropriate general academic and domain-specific words and phrases.
ELA.L.KL.6.2.B	Gather vocabulary knowledge when considering a word or phrase important to comprehension or expression.
ELA.L.VL.6.3.A	Use context (e.g., the overall meaning of a sentence or paragraph; a word's position or function in a sentence) as a clue to the meaning of a word or phrase.
ELA.L.VL.6.3.C	Use common, grade-appropriate Greek or Latin affixes and roots as clues to the meaning of a word (e.g., audience, auditory, audible).
ELA.L.VL.6.3.D	Consult reference materials (e.g., dictionaries, glossaries, thesauruses), both print and digital, to find the pronunciation of a word or determine or clarify its precise meaning or its part of speech.
ELA.L.VL.6.3.E	Verify the preliminary determination of the meaning of a word or phrase (e.g., by checking the inferred meaning in context or in a dictionary).
MATH.6.NS.C.6.c	Find and position integers and other rational numbers on a horizontal or vertical number line diagram; find and position pairs of integers and other rational numbers on a coordinate plane.
ELA.RI.TS.6.4	Use text structures (e.g., cause-effect, problem-solution), search tools, and genre features

	(e.g., graphics, captions, indexes) to locate and integrate information.
ELA.W.AW.6.1	Write arguments on discipline-specific content (e.g., social studies, science, math, technical subjects, English/Language Arts) to support claims with clear reasons and relevant evidence.
ELA.W.AW.6.1.A	Introduce claim(s) about a topic or issue and organize the reasons and evidence logically.
ELA.W.AW.6.1.B	Support claim(s) with logical reasoning and relevant, accurate data and evidence, that demonstrate an understanding of the topic or text, using credible sources.
ELA.W.AW.6.1.C	Use words, phrases, and clauses to link and clarify the relationships among claim(s), reasons and evidence.
ELA.W.IW.6.2.D	Use precise language and domain-specific vocabulary to inform about or explain the topic.
ELA.W.WR.6.5	Conduct short research projects to answer a question, drawing on several sources and refocusing the inquiry when appropriate.
ELA.W.SE.6.6	Gather relevant information from multiple print and digital sources; assess the credibility of each source; and quote or paraphrase the data and conclusions of others while avoiding plagiarism and providing basic bibliographic information for sources.
ELA.SL.PE.6.1.A	Come to discussions prepared, having read or studied required material; explicitly draw on that preparation by referring to evidence on the topic, text, or issue to probe and reflect on ideas under discussion.
ELA.SL.PE.6.1.D	Review the key ideas expressed and demonstrate understanding of multiple perspectives through reflection and paraphrasing.
SOC.6.2.8.GeoPP.1.a	Compare and contrast the social organization, natural resources, and land use of early hunters/gatherers and those who lived in early agrarian societies.
SOC.6.2.8.HistoryCC.1.a	Describe the influence of the agricultural revolution on population growth and the subsequent development of civilizations (e.g., the impact of food surplus from farming).
SOC.6.2.8.HistoryCC.1.d	Demonstrate an understanding of pre-agricultural and post-agricultural periods in terms of relative length of time.
SOC.6.2.8.HistorySE.1.a	Explain how archaeological discoveries are used to develop and enhance understanding of life prior to written records.

## **Career Readiness, Life Literacies, and Key Skills**

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WRK.9.2.8.CAP.3	Explain how career choices, educational choices, skills, economic conditions, and personal behavior affect income.
TECH.9.4.8.CT.2	Develop multiple solutions to a problem and evaluate short- and long-term effects to determine the most plausible option (e.g., MS-ETS1-4, 6.1.8.CivicsDP.1).
TECH.9.4.8.DC.2	Provide appropriate citation and attribution elements when creating media products (e.g., W.6.8).
TECH.9.4.8.DC.4	Explain how information shared digitally is public and can be searched, copied, and potentially seen by public audiences.
TECH.9.4.8.DC.8	Explain how communities use data and technology to develop measures to respond to effects of climate change (e.g., smart cities).
TECH.9.4.8.TL.3	Select appropriate tools to organize and present information digitally.

## **Career Ready Practices**

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- CRP2. Apply appropriate academic and technical skills.

- CRP4. Communicate clearly and effectively and with reason.
- CRP6. Demonstrate creativity and innovation.
- CRP7. Employ valid and reliable research strategies.
- CRP8. Utilize critical thinking to make sense of problems and persevere in solving them.
- CRP11. Use technology to enhance productivity.
- CRP12. Work productively in teams while using cultural global competence