

# Dec. Grade 5 Unit 2: Earth's Systems

Content Area: **Science**  
Course(s):  
Time Period: **December**  
Length: **8-10 Weeks**  
Status: **Published**

## Unit Overview

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In this unit, students learn about the Earth's 4 systems (rock water, air and life) , how they produce weather and climate, and how they change the Earth's surface. They explore how farming and industry affect Earth's systems, and what people can do to protect the Earth's systems.

## Enduring Understandings

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The Earth's 4 systems produce weather and climate, and change the surface of Earth.

Farming and Industry have a big effect on the Earth's systems.

People can take action to protect the Earth's systems.

## Essential Questions

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How do the Earth's 4 systems produce weather and climate?

How does the Earth's surface change because of the systems?

How does farming and industry affect the earth's systems?

What can we do to protect the Earth's systems?

## Instructional Strategies & Learning Activities

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**TEACHERS: THIS UNIT IS HOT LINKED BY CHAPTERS/QUESTIONS BELOW TO THE TCI SCIENCE ALIVE PROGRAM**

### [What Are Earth's Four Systems?](#)

Students develop an understanding of how to categorize things into Earth's four systems. They build a clay

model of Earth, showing each of Earth's systems. They also graph how much water on Earth is available as drinking water.

[Reading Further](#): Exploring the Deep Sea

- [2](#)

### [How Do Earth's Systems Produce Weather and Climate?](#)

Students examine placards about weather and climate. They determine which of Earth's systems interact to produce weather and climate. Then pairs create a diagram and give a weather report about one of the examples.

[Reading Further](#): Antarctica for All

- [3](#)

### [How Do Earth's Systems Change Earth's Surface?](#)

Students work in groups of four to analyze one example of how Earth's surface changed. They create an act-it-out to model how Earth's systems interacted to cause this change.

[Reading Further](#): Let Worms Do the Work

- [4](#)

### [How Do Farming and Industry Affect Earth's Systems?](#)

Students observe some effects farming and industry have on Earth's systems. They model the effects the mining industry has on the geosphere by "mining" chocolate chips from cookies.

[Reading Further](#): Traveling Tacos

- [5](#)

### [How Do People's Everyday Lives Affect Earth's Systems?](#)

Students view examples of everyday activities and discuss how the activity affects Earth's systems. Then

groups brainstorm ways to reduce the negative impact each activity has on Earth.

[Reading Further](#): What Clean Water Means

- [6](#)

[What Can People Do To Protect Earth's Systems?](#)

Students act as engineers to design and build a water filter using a set of materials. In groups, they research different ways people protect Earth's systems and create a podcast to report their research.

[Reading Further](#): Diving Birds and Bullet Trains

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## **Integration of Career Exploration, Life Literacies and Key Skills**

working in cooperative groups

Students will do a STEM activity to create a water filtration system

CRP.K-12.CRP1	Act as a responsible and contributing citizen and employee.
CRP.K-12.CRP2	Apply appropriate academic and technical skills.
CRP.K-12.CRP4	Communicate clearly and effectively and with reason.
CRP.K-12.CRP5	Consider the environmental, social and economic impacts of decisions.
CRP.K-12.CRP6	Demonstrate creativity and innovation.
CRP.K-12.CRP7	Employ valid and reliable research strategies.
CRP.K-12.CRP8	Utilize critical thinking to make sense of problems and persevere in solving them.
CRP.K-12.CRP9	Model integrity, ethical leadership and effective management.
CRP.K-12.CRP10	Plan education and career paths aligned to personal goals.
CRP.K-12.CRP11	Use technology to enhance productivity.
CRP.K-12.CRP12	Work productively in teams while using cultural global competence.
WRK.9.2.5.CAP.1	Evaluate personal likes and dislikes and identify careers that might be suited to personal likes.
WRK.9.2.5.CAP.2	Identify how you might like to earn an income.
WRK.9.2.5.CAP.3	Identify qualifications needed to pursue traditional and non-traditional careers and occupations.

WRK.9.2.5.CAP.4	Explain the reasons why some jobs and careers require specific training, skills, and certification (e.g., life guards, child care, medicine, education) and examples of these requirements.
CAEP.9.2.8.B.3	Evaluate communication, collaboration, and leadership skills that can be developed through school, home, work, and extracurricular activities for use in a career.
CAEP.9.2.8.B.4	Evaluate how traditional and nontraditional careers have evolved regionally, nationally, and globally.
TECH.9.4.5.CI.1	Use appropriate communication technologies to collaborate with individuals with diverse perspectives about a local and/or global climate change issue and deliberate about possible solutions (e.g., W.4.6, 3.MD.B.3, 7.1.NM.IPERS.6).
TECH.9.4.5.CI.2	Investigate a persistent local or global issue, such as climate change, and collaborate with individuals with diverse perspectives to improve upon current actions designed to address the issue (e.g., 6.3.5.CivicsPD.3, W.5.7).
TECH.9.4.5.CI.3	Participate in a brainstorming session with individuals with diverse perspectives to expand one's thinking about a topic of curiosity (e.g., 8.2.5.ED.2, 1.5.5.CR1a).
TECH.9.4.5.CT.1	Identify and gather relevant data that will aid in the problem-solving process (e.g., 2.1.5.EH.4, 4-ESS3-1, 6.3.5.CivicsPD.2).
TECH.9.4.5.CT.2	Identify a problem and list the types of individuals and resources (e.g., school, community agencies, governmental, online) that can aid in solving the problem (e.g., 2.1.5.CHSS.1, 4-ESS3-1).
TECH.9.4.5.CT.4	Apply critical thinking and problem-solving strategies to different types of problems such as personal, academic, community and global (e.g., 6.1.5.CivicsCM.3).
TECH.9.4.5.IML.6	Use appropriate sources of information from diverse sources, contexts, disciplines, and cultures to answer questions (e.g., RI.5.7, 6.1.5.HistoryCC.7, 7.1.NM. IPRET.5).  An individual's passions, aptitude and skills can affect his/her employment and earning potential.  The ability to solve problems effectively begins with gathering data, seeking resources, and applying critical thinking skills.

## Technology and Design Integration

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online games for each section

Generation Genius

Bill Nye

Crash Course Kids

Brainpop

Youtube

CS.3-5.8.1.5.DA.1	Collect, organize, and display data in order to highlight relationships or support a claim.
CS.3-5.8.2.5.ED.1	Explain the functions of a system and its subsystems.
CS.3-5.8.2.5.ED.2	Collaborate with peers to collect information, brainstorm to solve a problem, and evaluate all possible solutions to provide the best results with supporting sketches or models.

CS.3-5.8.2.5.ED.3	Follow step by step directions to assemble a product or solve a problem, using appropriate tools to accomplish the task.
CS.3-5.8.2.5.ED.4	Explain factors that influence the development and function of products and systems (e.g., resources, criteria, desired features, constraints).
CS.3-5.8.2.5.ETW.1	Describe how resources such as material, energy, information, time, tools, people, and capital are used in products or systems.
CS.3-5.8.2.5.ETW.2	Describe ways that various technologies are used to reduce improper use of resources.
CS.3-5.8.2.5.ETW.3	Explain why human-designed systems, products, and environments need to be constantly monitored, maintained, and improved.
CS.3-5.8.2.5.ETW.4	Explain the impact that resources, such as energy and materials used to develop technology, have on the environment.
CS.3-5.8.2.5.ETW.5	Identify the impact of a specific technology on the environment and determine what can be done to increase positive effects and to reduce any negative effects, such as climate change.
CS.3-5.8.2.5.ITH.1	Explain how societal needs and wants influence the development and function of a product and a system.
TECH.8.1.5.A.CS1	Understand and use technology systems
TECH.8.1.5.A.CS2	<p>Select and use applications effectively and productively.</p> <p>Technology innovation and improvement may be influenced by a variety of factors. Engineers create and modify technologies to meet people’s needs and wants; scientists ask questions about the natural world.</p> <p>Societal needs and wants determine which new tools are developed to address real-world problems.</p> <p>Engineering design is a systematic and creative process of communicating and collaborating to meet a design challenge. Often, several design solutions exist, each better in some way than the others.</p> <p>The technology developed for the human designed world can have unintended consequences for the environment. Technology must be continually developed and made more efficient to reduce the need for non-renewable resources.</p>

## **Interdisciplinary Connections**

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Students will use art to build a model of Earth's systems

LA.RI.5.1	Quote accurately from a text and make relevant connections when explaining what the text says explicitly and when drawing inferences from the text.
LA.RI.5.2	Determine two or more main ideas of a text and explain how they are supported by key details; summarize the text.
LA.RI.5.3	Explain the relationships or interactions between two or more individuals, events, ideas, or concepts in a historical, scientific, or technical text based on specific information in the text.
LA.RI.5.4	Determine the meaning of general academic and domain-specific words and phrases in a text relevant to a grade 5 topic or subject area.
LA.RI.5.5	Compare and contrast the overall structure (e.g., chronology, comparison, cause/effect, problem/solution) of events, ideas, concepts, or information in two or more texts.
LA.RI.5.6	Analyze multiple accounts of the same event or topic, noting important similarities and differences in the point of view they represent.

LA.RI.5.7	Draw on information from multiple print or digital sources, demonstrating the ability to locate an answer to a question quickly or to solve a problem efficiently.
LA.RI.5.8	Explain how an author uses reasons and evidence to support particular points in a text, identifying which reasons and evidence support which point(s).
LA.RI.5.9	Integrate and reflect on (e.g., practical knowledge, historical/cultural context, and background knowledge) information from several texts on the same topic in order to write or speak about the subject knowledgeably.
LA.RI.5.10	By the end of year, read and comprehend literary nonfiction at grade level text-complexity or above, with scaffolding as needed.
LA.RF.5.3	Know and apply grade-level phonics and word analysis skills in decoding and encoding words.
LA.RF.5.4	Read with sufficient accuracy and fluency to support comprehension.
LA.W.5.2	Write informative/explanatory texts to examine a topic and convey ideas and information clearly.
LA.W.5.4	Produce clear and coherent writing in which the development and organization are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience. (Grade-specific expectations for writing types are defined in standards 1–3 above.)
LA.W.5.5	With guidance and support from peers and adults, develop and strengthen writing as needed by planning, revising, editing, rewriting, or trying a new approach.
LA.W.5.6	With some guidance and support from adults and peers, use technology, including the Internet, to produce and publish writing as well as to interact and collaborate with others; demonstrate sufficient command of keyboarding skills to type a minimum of two pages in a single sitting.
LA.W.5.7	Conduct short research projects that use several sources to build knowledge through investigation of different perspectives of a topic.
LA.W.5.8	Recall relevant information from experiences or gather relevant information from print and digital sources; summarize or paraphrase information in notes and finished work, and provide a list of sources.
LA.W.5.9	Draw evidence from literary or informational texts to support analysis, reflection, and research.
LA.SL.5.1	Engage effectively in a range of collaborative discussions (one-on-one, in groups, and teacher-led) with diverse partners on grade 5 topics and texts, building on others' ideas and expressing their own clearly.
LA.SL.5.2	Summarize a written text read aloud or information presented in diverse media and formats (e.g., visually, quantitatively, and orally).
LA.SL.5.3	Summarize the points a speaker makes and explain how each claim is supported by reasons and evidence.
LA.SL.5.4	Report on a topic or text or present an opinion, sequencing ideas logically and using appropriate facts and relevant, descriptive details to support main ideas or themes; speak clearly at an understandable pace.
LA.SL.5.5	Include multimedia components (e.g., graphics, sound) and visual displays in presentations when appropriate to enhance the development of main ideas or themes.
LA.SL.5.6	Adapt speech to a variety of contexts and tasks, using formal English when appropriate to task and situation.
LA.L.5.1	Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English grammar and usage when writing or speaking.
LA.L.5.2	Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English capitalization, punctuation, and spelling when writing.

LA.L.5.3	Use knowledge of language and its conventions when writing, speaking, reading, or listening.
LA.L.5.4	Determine or clarify the meaning of unknown and multiple-meaning words and phrases based on grade 5 reading and content, choosing flexibly from a range of strategies.
LA.L.5.6	Acquire and use accurately grade-appropriate general academic and domain-specific words and phrases, including those that signal contrast, addition, and other logical relationships (e.g., however, although, nevertheless, similarly, moreover, in addition).

## **Differentiation**

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- Understand that gifted students, just like all students, come to school to learn and be challenged.
- Pre-assess your students. Find out their areas of strength as well as those areas you may need to address before students move on.
- Consider grouping gifted students together for at least part of the school day.
- Plan for differentiation. Consider pre-assessments, extension activities, and compacting the curriculum.
- Use phrases like "You've shown you don't need more practice" or "You need more practice" instead of words like "qualify" or "eligible" when referring to extension work.
- Encourage high-ability students to take on challenges. Because they're often used to getting good grades, gifted students may be risk averse.
- **Definitions of Differentiation Components:**
  - Content – the specific information that is to be taught in the lesson/unit/course of instruction.
  - Process – how the student will acquire the content information.
  - Product – how the student will demonstrate understanding of the content.
  - Learning Environment – the environment where learning is taking place including physical location and/or student grouping

### **Differentiation occurring in this unit:**

Utilize differentiation suggestions in the TCI Science Alive! program for enrichment and support.

## **Modifications & Accommodations**

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Refer to QSAC EXCEL SMALL SPED ACCOMMODATIONS spreadsheet in this discipline.

### **Modifications and Accommodations used in this unit:**

utilize 504 and IEP accommodations where required

## Benchmark Assessments

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**Benchmark Assessments** are given periodically (e.g., at the end of every quarter or as frequently as once per month) throughout a school year to establish baseline achievement data and measure progress toward a standard or set of academic standards and goals.

### **Schoolwide Benchmark assessments:**

Aimswest benchmarks 3X a year

Linkit Benchmarks 3X a year

DRA

### **Additional Benchmarks used in this unit:**

end of section online games

unit tests

state standardized test

## Formative Assessments

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Assessment allows both instructor and student to monitor progress towards achieving learning objectives, and can be approached in a variety of ways. **Formative assessment** refers to tools that identify misconceptions, struggles, and learning gaps along the way and assess how to close those gaps. It includes effective tools for helping to shape learning, and can even bolster students' abilities to take ownership of their learning when they understand that the goal is to improve learning, not apply final marks (Trumbull and Lash, 2013). It can include students assessing themselves, peers, or even the instructor, through writing, quizzes, conversation, and more. In short, formative assessment occurs throughout a class or course, and seeks to improve student achievement of learning objectives through approaches that can support specific student needs (Theal and Franklin, 2010, p. 151).

### **Formative Assessments used in this unit:**

TCI worksheets, quizzes

Discussion

Teacher observation

Labs and Hands on activities



## Summative Assessments

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**Summative assessments** evaluate student learning, knowledge, proficiency, or success at the conclusion of an instructional period, like a unit, course, or program. Summative assessments are almost always formally graded and often heavily weighted (though they do not need to be). Summative assessment can be used to great effect in conjunction and alignment with formative assessment, and instructors can consider a variety of ways to combine these approaches.

### Summative assessments for this unit:

Unit assessments in the TCI program

## Instructional Materials

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Materials for labs indicated in TCI program

## Standards

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SCI.5-LS2	Ecosystems: Interactions, Energy, and Dynamics
SCI.5-LS2-1	<p>Develop a model to describe the movement of matter among plants, animals, decomposers, and the environment.</p> <p>Emphasis is on the idea that matter that is not food (air, water, decomposed materials in soil) is changed by plants into matter that is food. Examples of systems could include organisms, ecosystems, and the Earth.</p> <p>Assessment does not include molecular explanations.</p> <p>Developing and Using Models</p> <p>Modeling in 3–5 builds on K–2 experiences and progresses to building and revising simple models and using models to represent events and design solutions.</p> <p>Develop a model to describe phenomena.</p>
SCI.5.LS2.A	<p>Interdependent Relationships in Ecosystems</p> <p>The food of almost any kind of animal can be traced back to plants. Organisms are related in food webs in which some animals eat plants for food and other animals eat the animals that eat plants. Some organisms, such as fungi and bacteria, break down dead organisms (both plants or plants parts and animals) and therefore operate as “decomposers.” Decomposition eventually restores (recycles) some materials back to the soil. Organisms can survive only in environments in which their particular needs are met. A healthy ecosystem is one in which multiple species of different types are each able to meet their needs in a relatively stable web of life. Newly introduced species can damage the balance of an ecosystem.</p>
SCI.5.LS2.B	Cycles of Matter and Energy Transfer in Ecosystems

Matter cycles between the air and soil and among plants, animals, and microbes as these organisms live and die. Organisms obtain gases, and water, from the environment, and release waste matter (gas, liquid, or solid) back into the environment.

#### Systems and System Models

Examples could include the influence of the ocean on ecosystems, landform shape, and climate; the influence of the atmosphere on landforms and ecosystems through weather and climate; and the influence of mountain ranges on winds and clouds in the atmosphere. The geosphere, hydrosphere, atmosphere, and biosphere are each a system.

Assessment is limited to the interactions of two systems at a time.

#### Developing and Using Models

Modeling in 3–5 builds on K–2 experiences and progresses to building and revising simple models and using models to represent events and design solutions.

SCI.5.ESS2.A

#### Earth Materials and Systems

Earth's major systems are the geosphere (solid and molten rock, soil, and sediments), the hydrosphere (water and ice), the atmosphere (air), and the biosphere (living things, including humans). These systems interact in multiple ways to affect Earth's surface materials and processes. The ocean supports a variety of ecosystems and organisms, shapes landforms, and influences climate. Winds and clouds in the atmosphere interact with the landforms to determine patterns of weather.

#### Systems and System Models

A system can be described in terms of its components and their interactions.