

Nov. Gr. 7 Unit 4B: Human Impact

Content Area: **Science**
Course(s):
Time Period: **November**
Length: **1 Weeks**
Status: **Published**

Unit Overview

This unit looks at the impact humans have on earth's resources.

Enduring Understandings

Lesson Objectives

By the end of the lesson, students should be able to:

- Provide examples of ways humans depend on natural resources.
- Evaluate the replenishability and extraction of renewable and nonrenewable natural resources.
- Identify human activities that lead to air pollution, water pollution, land pollution, carbon dioxide emissions, and climate change.

Essential Questions

- **Overarching Question**
 - How do Earth's surface processes and human activities affect each other?
- **Focus Question**
 - How do humans change the planet?
- **Lesson Questions**
 - How do we use natural resources?
 - How easily are renewable and nonrenewable resources obtained and replenished?
 - How do human populations and activities affect Earth's systems?
 - Why is it important that we use natural resources wisely?

- **Can You Explain?**

- How do increases in human use of natural resources affect Earth's systems?

Instructional Strategies & Learning Activities

DISCOVERY TECHBOOK LESSONS:

The Five Es

- [The Five E Instructional Model](#)

Science Techbook follows the 5E instructional model. As you plan your lesson, the provided Model Lesson includes strategies for each of the 5Es.

- [Engage \(45–90 minutes\)](#)

Students reflect on the use of the natural resource, wood, in their everyday living and evaluate their current knowledge about classifying renewable and nonrenewable resources. Students begin to formulate ideas around the Can You Explain?

- [Explore \(180 minutes\)](#)

Students investigate questions about the different ways natural resources are used by humans, including what must be done to find and replenish both renewable and nonrenewable resources.

- [Explain \(45–90 minutes\)](#)

Students construct scientific explanations to the CYE question by including evidence of how increased human activities with natural resources affects Earth's systems.

- [Elaborate with STEM \(45–135 minutes\)](#)

Students apply their understanding of human impacts as they learn about the different ways to develop green cities, investigate the connection between human impacts and land use, and research viable solutions to decrease waste generation.

- [Evaluate \(45–90 minutes\)](#)

Students are evaluated on the state science standards, as well as Standards in ELA/Literacy and Standards in Math standards, using Board Builder and the provided concept summative assessment

Integration of Career Readiness, Life Literacies and Key Skills

TECH.9.4.8.CI.4	Explore the role of creativity and innovation in career pathways and industries.
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.4	Synthesize and publish information about a local or global issue or event (e.g., MSLS4-5, 6.1.8.CivicsPI.3).
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.GCA.2	Demonstrate openness to diverse ideas and perspectives through active discussions to achieve a group goal.
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). Multiple solutions often exist to solve a problem.
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.3	Compare past problem-solving solutions to local, national, or global issues and analyze the factors that led to a positive or negative outcome.
TECH.9.4.8.IML.5	Analyze and interpret local or public data sets to summarize and effectively communicate the data. Digital technology and data can be leveraged by communities to address effects of climate change.
TECH.9.4.8.CI.3	Examine challenges that may exist in the adoption of new ideas (e.g., 2.1.8.SSH, 6.1.8.CivicsPD.2).
TECH.9.4.8.TL.2	Gather data and digitally represent information to communicate a real-world problem (e.g., MS-ESS3-4, 6.1.8.EconET.1, 6.1.8.CivicsPR.4).
WRK.9.2.8.CAP.2	Develop a plan that includes information about career areas of interest.
TECH.9.4.8.GCA.1	Model how to navigate cultural differences with sensitivity and respect (e.g., 1.5.8.C1a).
TECH.9.4.8.TL.3	Select appropriate tools to organize and present information digitally.
TECH.9.4.8.IML.3	Create a digital visualization that effectively communicates a data set using formatting techniques such as form, position, size, color, movement, and spatial grouping (e.g., 6.SP.B.4, 7.SP.B.8b).
WRK.9.2.8.CAP.1	Identify offerings such as high school and county career and technical school courses, apprenticeships, military programs, and dual enrollment courses that support career or occupational areas of interest.
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.CI.1	Assess data gathered on varying perspectives on causes of climate change (e.g., cross-cultural, gender-specific, generational), and determine how the data can best be used to design multiple potential solutions (e.g., RI.7.9, 6.SP.B.5, 7.1.NH.IPERS.6, 8.2.8.ETW.4).

Technology Integration

CS.6-8.8.2.8.ITH.4	Identify technologies that have been designed to reduce the negative consequences of other technologies and explain the change in impact.
CS.6-8.8.2.8.ITH.2	Compare how technologies have influenced society over time.
CS.6-8.8.2.8.ED.5	Explain the need for optimization in a design process.
CS.6-8.8.2.8.ITH.1	Explain how the development and use of technology influences economic, political, social, and cultural issues. Data is represented in many formats. Software tools translate the low-level representation of bits into a form understandable by individuals. Data is organized and accessible based on the application used to store it.
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.6-8.8.1.8.DA.6	Analyze climate change computational models and propose refinements.
CS.6-8.8.2.8.ED.6	Analyze how trade-offs can impact the design of a product.
CS.6-8.8.1.8.DA.5	Test, analyze, and refine computational models.
CS.6-8.8.2.8.ITH.3	Evaluate the impact of sustainability on the development of a designed product or system.

Interdisciplinary Connections

LA.WHST.6-8.1	Write arguments focused on discipline-specific content.
LA.WHST.6-8.7	Conduct short research projects to answer a question (including a self-generated question), drawing on several sources and generating additional related, focused questions that allow for multiple avenues of exploration.
LA.WHST.6-8.8	Gather relevant information from multiple print and digital sources, using search terms effectively; assess the credibility and accuracy of each source; and quote or paraphrase the data and conclusions of others while avoiding plagiarism and following a standard format for citation.
LA.WHST.6-8.9	Draw evidence from informational texts to support analysis, reflection, and research.
LA.WHST.6-8.2	Write informative/explanatory texts, including the narration of historical events, scientific procedures/experiments, or technical processes.
LA.RST.6-8.1	Cite specific textual evidence to support analysis of science and technical texts.
LA.RST.6-8.2	Determine the central ideas or conclusions of a text; provide an accurate summary of the text distinct from prior knowledge or opinions.
LA.RST.6-8.3	Follow precisely a multistep procedure when carrying out experiments, taking measurements, or performing technical tasks.
MA.7.SP.A.1	Understand that statistics can be used to gain information about a population by examining a sample of the population; generalizations about a population from a sample are valid only if the sample is representative of that population. Understand that random sampling tends to produce representative samples and support valid inferences.
LA.RST.6-8.4	Determine the meaning of symbols, key terms, and other domain-specific words and phrases as they are used in a specific scientific or technical context relevant to grades 6-8 texts and topics.
LA.RST.6-8.5	Analyze the structure an author uses to organize a text, including how the major sections contribute to the whole and to an understanding of the topic.

LA.RST.6-8.6	Analyze the author's purpose in providing an explanation, describing a procedure, or discussing an experiment in a text.
MA.7.EE.B	Solve real-life and mathematical problems using numerical and algebraic expressions and equations.
LA.RST.6-8.7	Integrate quantitative or technical information expressed in words in a text with a version of that information expressed visually (e.g., in a flowchart, diagram, model, graph, or table).
LA.RST.6-8.8	Distinguish among facts, reasoned judgment based on research findings, and speculation in a text.
LA.RST.6-8.9	Compare and contrast the information gained from experiments, simulations, video, or multimedia sources with that gained from reading a text on the same topic.
MA.6.SP.B.5	Summarize numerical data sets in relation to their context, such as by:
LA.WHST.6-8.4	Produce clear and coherent writing in which the development, organization, voice, and style are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience.
LA.RST.6-8.10	By the end of grade 8, read and comprehend science/technical texts in the grades 6-8 text complexity band independently and proficiently.
LA.WHST.6-8.5	With some guidance and support from peers and adults, develop and strengthen writing as needed by planning, revising, editing, rewriting, or trying a new approach, focusing on how well purpose and audience have been addressed.
MA.6.SP.B.5a	Reporting the number of observations.
LA.WHST.6-8.6	Use technology, including the Internet, to produce and publish writing and present the relationships between information and ideas clearly and efficiently.
MA.6.SP.B.5b	Describing the nature of the attribute under investigation, including how it was measured and its units of measurement.

Differentiation

Struggling Students

1. Help students break down the idea in the summary to the video [Energy Consumption Around the World](#), which claims we would need 5.4 Earths to sustain the world if all countries consumed the same amount of energy as the United States. Use a model of Earth or show an image and have students explain why we would need more Earths (because people would be consuming more resources than are available).

ELL

1. Review with students the prefix non-, and discuss how it changes the meaning of renewable to nonrenewable.
2. Review terms in the Lesson Question to make sure students understand what is being asked: populations, activities, systems. Provide images for vocabulary terms that may be difficult for students. For example, provide maps that show how river systems carry water to larger bodies of water so that students have a good visual of

Accelerated Students

1. Challenge students to compare any two types of energy resources, discussing their relative cost, environmental effects, and other benefits and drawbacks.
2. Using their current knowledge of how human activities impact the replenishment of natural resources, have students design and complete an investigation about how much energy they consume in their own lives. Students can collect this data and create a data set over a given time period. Ask them to identify peak energy consumption times. Students should draw conclusions as to how their consumption affects

what they are modeling.

Earth's systems.

[Differentiation in science](#) can be accomplished in several ways. Once you have given a pre-test to students, you know what information has already been mastered and what they still need to work on. Next, you design activities, discussions, lectures, and so on to teach information to students. The best way is to have two or three groups of students divided by ability level.

While you are instructing one group, the other groups are working on activities to further their knowledge of the concepts. For example, while you are helping one group learn the planet names in order, another group is researching climate, size, and distance from the moon of each planet. Then the groups switch, and you instruct the second group on another objective from the space unit. The first group practices writing the order of the planets and drawing a diagram of them.

Here are some ideas for the classroom when you are using differentiation in science:

- Create a tic-tac-toe board that lists different activities at different ability levels. When students aren't involved in direct instruction with you, they can work on activities from their tic-tac-toe board. These boards have nine squares, like a tic-tac-toe board; and each square lists an activity that corresponds with the science unit. For example, one solar system activity for advanced science students might be to create a power point presentation about eclipses. For beginning students, an activity might be to make a poster for one of the planets and include important data such as size, order from the sun, whether it has moons, and so on.
- Find websites on the current science unit that students can explore on their own.
- Allow students to work in small groups to create a project throughout the entire unit. For example, one group might create a solar system model to scale. Another group might write a play about the solar system. This is an activity these groups can work on while they are not working directly with you.

Differentiation in science gets students excited to learn because it challenges them to expand their knowledge and skills, instead of teaching the whole group concepts they have already mastered.

Modifications & Accommodations

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

Modifications and Accommodations used in this unit:

In addition to differentiated instruction, IEP's and 504 accommodations will be utilized.

Benchmark Assessments

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:

Aimsweb benchmarks 3X a year

Linkit Benchmarks 3X a year

Additional Benchmarks used in this unit:

See information above

Formative Assessments

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:

Formative assessments as listed in unit.

See assessments located in the unit link above

Summative Assessments

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:

Summative assessments as listed in unit.

See assessments located in the unit link above

Instructional Materials

See materials located in Unit above.

Discovery Techbook

Teacher made materials

Additional labs available through NJCTL on line curriculum

Standards

SCI.MS.ESS3.C

Human Impacts on Earth Systems

Asking Questions and Defining Problems

Analyzing data 6–8 builds on grades K–5 and progresses to extending quantitative analysis to investigations, distinguishing between correlation and causation, and basic statistical techniques of data and error analysis.

Typically, as human populations and per-capita consumption of natural resources increase, so do the negative impacts on Earth unless the activities and technologies involved are engineered otherwise.

Emphasis is on how some natural hazards, such as volcanic eruptions and severe weather, are preceded by phenomena that allow for reliable predictions, but others, such as earthquakes, occur suddenly and with no notice, and thus are not yet predictable.

Examples of natural hazards can be taken from interior processes (such as earthquakes and volcanic eruptions), surface processes (such as mass wasting and tsunamis), or severe weather events (such as hurricanes, tornadoes, and floods). Examples of data can include the locations, magnitudes, and frequencies of the natural hazards. Examples of technologies can be global (such as satellite systems to monitor hurricanes or forest fires)

or local (such as building basements in tornado-prone regions or reservoirs to mitigate droughts).

Analyze and interpret data to determine similarities and differences in findings.

Examples of evidence include grade-appropriate databases on human populations and the rates of consumption of food and natural resources (such as freshwater, mineral, and energy). Examples of impacts can include changes to the appearance, composition, and structure of Earth's systems as well as the rates at which they change. The consequences of increases in human populations and consumption of natural resources are described by science, but science does not make the decisions for the actions society takes.

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Analyzing and Interpreting Data

Human activities, such as the release of greenhouse gases from burning fossil fuels, are major factors in the current rise in Earth's mean surface temperature (global warming). Reducing the level of climate change and reducing human vulnerability to whatever climate changes do occur depend on the understanding of climate science, engineering capabilities, and other kinds of knowledge, such as understanding of human behavior and on applying that knowledge wisely in decisions and activities.

SCI.MS.ESS3.D

Global Climate Change

Examples of the design process include examining human environmental impacts, assessing the kinds of solutions that are feasible, and designing and evaluating solutions that could reduce that impact. Examples of human impacts can include water usage (such as the withdrawal of water from streams and aquifers or the construction of dams and levees), land usage (such as urban development, agriculture, or the removal of wetlands), and pollution (such as of the air, water, or land).

Patterns

Human activities have significantly altered the biosphere, sometimes damaging or destroying natural habitats and causing the extinction of other species. But changes to Earth's environments can have different impacts (negative and positive) for different living things.

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-ESS3-5

Ask questions to clarify evidence of the factors that have caused climate change over the past century.

SCI.MS-ESS3

Earth and Human Activity

Examples of factors include human activities (such as fossil fuel combustion, cement production, and agricultural activity) and natural processes (such as changes in incoming solar radiation or volcanic activity). Examples of evidence can include tables, graphs, and maps of global and regional temperatures, atmospheric levels of gases such as carbon dioxide and methane, and the rates of human activities. Emphasis is on the major role that human activities play in causing the rise in global temperatures.

SCI.MS.ESS3.C

Human Impacts on Earth Systems

SCI.MS.ESS3.B

Natural Hazards

Mapping the history of natural hazards in a region, combined with an understanding of related geologic forces can help forecast the locations and likelihoods of future events.

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.

Ask questions to identify and clarify evidence of an argument.

Asking questions and defining problems in grades 6–8 builds on grades K–5 experiences and progresses to specifying relationships between variables and clarifying arguments and models.

Graphs, charts, and images can be used to identify patterns in data.