

LINKS TO CALIFORNIA SCIENCE STANDARDS

Grade Six

Plate Tectonics and Earth's Structure

1a. Students know evidence of plate tectonics is derived from the fit of continents; the location of earthquakes, volcanoes, and midocean ridges; and the distribution of fossils, rock types, and ancient climatic zones.

1d. Students know that earthquakes are sudden motions along breaks in the crust called faults and that volcanoes and fissures are locations where magma reaches the surface.

1e. Students know major geologic events, such as earthquakes, volcanic eruptions, and mountain building result from plate motion.

1f. Students know how to explain major features of California geology (including mountains, faults, volcanoes) in terms of plate tectonics.

Shaping Earth's Surface

2a. Students know that water running downhill is the dominant process in the shaping of the landscape, including California's landscape.

2b. Students know rivers and streams are dynamic systems that erode, transport sediment, change course and flood their banks in natural and recurring patterns.

2c. Students know beaches are dynamic systems in which the sand is supplied by rivers and moved along the coast by the action of waves.

Heat (Thermal Energy) (Physical Sciences)

3a. Students know energy can be carried from one place to another by heat flow or by waves, including water, light and sound waves, or by moving objects.

Energy in the Earth's System

4a. Students know the sun is the major source of energy for phenomena on Earth's surface; it powers winds, ocean currents and the water cycle.

Ecology (Life Sciences)

5a. Students know energy entering ecosystems as sunlight is transferred by producers into chemical energy through photosynthesis, and then from organism to organism through food webs.

5b. Students know matter is transferred over time from one organism to the others in the food web and between organisms and the physical environment.

5c. Students know populations of organisms can be categorized by the functions they serve in an ecosystem.

5e. Students know the number and types of organisms an ecosystem can support depends on the resources available and on abiotic factors, such as quantities of light and water, a range of temperatures and soil composition.

Investigation & Experimentation

7.b. Select and use appropriate tools and technology (including calculators, computers, balances, spring scales, microscopes, and binoculars) to perform tests, collect data, and display data.

