

## BIG IDEAS

Incorporating data from a variety of sources allows us to better understand our globally connected world.

Natural processes have an impact on the landscape and human settlement.

Interactions between human activities and the atmosphere affect local and global weather and climate.

## Learning Standards

Curricular Competencies	Content
<p><i>Students are expected to be able to do the following:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Use geographic inquiry processes and geographic literacy skills to ask questions; gather, interpret, and analyze data and ideas from a variety of sources and spatial/temporal scales; and communicate findings and decisions (evidence and interpretation)</b></li> <li>• <b>Assess the significance of places by identifying the physical and/or human features that characterize them (sense of place)</b></li> <li>• <b>Assess the interpretations of geographic evidence after investigating points of contention, reliability of sources, and adequacy of evidence (evidence and interpretation)</b></li> <li>• <b>Draw conclusions about the variation and distribution of geographic phenomena over time and space (patterns and trends)</b></li> <li>• <b>Evaluate how particular geographic actions or events affect human practices or outcomes (geographical value judgments)</b></li> <li>• <b>Evaluate features or aspects of geographic phenomena or locations to explain what makes them worthy of attention or recognition (geographical importance)</b></li> <li>• <b>Identify and assess how human and environmental factors and events influence each other (interactions and associations)</b></li> <li>• <b>Make reasoned ethical judgments about controversial actions in the past and/or present, and determine whether we have a responsibility to respond (geographical value judgments)</b></li> </ul>	<p><i>Students are expected to know the following:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• structure of, feedback within, and equilibrium of natural systems</li> <li>• distinguishing features of the atmosphere, hydrosphere, cryosphere, lithosphere, biosphere, and anthroposphere</li> <li>• connections and interactions between the spheres</li> <li>• features and processes of plate tectonics and their effects on human and natural systems</li> <li>• features and processes of gradation and their effects on human and natural systems</li> <li>• natural disasters and their effects on human and natural systems</li> <li>• features and processes of Sun–Earth interactions and resulting patterns of climate, landscapes, and ecosystems</li> <li>• climate, weather, and interactions between humans and the atmosphere</li> <li>• characteristics of global biomes, including climate, soil, and vegetation</li> <li>• features and processes of the anthroposphere and their effects on natural systems.</li> <li>• natural resources and sustainability</li> </ul>