

National Standards and Benchmarks

Standard	Benchmark	Lesson 1	Lesson 2	Lesson 3
Geography				
The World in Spatial Terms				
Understands the characteristics and uses of maps, globes, and other geographic tools and technologies	Knows the advantages and disadvantages of maps, globes, and other geographic tools to illustrate a data set	X	X	X
Knows the location of places, geographic features, and patterns of the environment	Knows the location of physical and human features on maps and globes	X	X	X
	Knows the relative location of, size of, and distances between places	X	X	X
Physical Systems				
Understands the characteristics of ecosystems on Earth's surface	Understands the distribution of ecosystems from local to global scales	X	X	X
	Knows the potential impact of human activities within a given ecosystem on the carbon, nitrogen, and oxygen cycles	X		
Environment and Society				
Understands how human actions modify the physical environment	Understands the environmental consequences of people changing the physical environment	X	X	X
	Understands the ways in which human-induced changes in the physical environment in one place can cause changes in other places	X		
Understands the changes that occur in the meaning, use, distribution, and importance of resources	Knows strategies for wise management and use of renewable, flow, and nonrenewable resources	X	X	X
Uses of Geography				
Understands global development and environmental issues	Understands how the interaction between physical and human systems affects current conditions on Earth	X		
Science				
Earth and Space Sciences				
Understands atmospheric processes and the water cycle	Knows the processes involved in the water cycle and their effects on climatic patterns	X		
	Knows factors that can impact Earth's climate	X		
Language Arts				
Writing				
Gathers and uses information for research purposes	Uses a variety of resource materials to gather information for research topics	X	X	X
Reading				
Uses reading skills and strategies to understand and interpret a variety of informational texts	Uses reading skills and strategies to understand a variety of informational texts	X		
	Uses prior knowledge and experience to understand and respond to new information	X		X