

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.

Human activities and resource use affect the environment.

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"> • Use geographic inquiry processes and skills to: ask questions; gather, interpret, and analyze data and ideas from a variety of sources; and communicate findings and decisions (evidence and interpretation) • Assess the significance of places by identifying the physical and/or human features that characterize places (sense of place) • Assess the interpretations of geographic evidence after investigating points of contention, reliability of sources, and adequacy of evidence (evidence and interpretation) • Draw conclusions about the variation and distribution of geographic phenomena over time and space (patterns and trends) • Evaluate how particular geographic actions or events affect human practices or outcomes (geographical value judgments) • Evaluate the features or aspects of geographic phenomena or locations to explain what makes them worthy of attention or recognition (geographical importance) • Identify and assess how human and environmental factors and events influence each other (interactions and associations) • Make reasoned ethical judgments about controversial actions in the past and/or present, and whether we have a responsibility to respond (geographical value judgments) 	<p><i>Students are expected to know the following:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • features and processes of plate tectonics and their effects on human and natural systems • features and processes of gradation and their effects on human and natural systems • natural disasters and their effects on human and natural systems • Climate, weather, and interactions between humans and the atmosphere • Characteristics of global biomes, including climate, soil, and vegetation • Natural resources and sustainability