

# NGSS Earth Science

## Course Overview and Syllabus

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**Course Number:**

**Grade level:** 8/9

**Prerequisite Courses:** None

**Credits:** 1.0

### Course Description

This full-year course introduces students to the study of Earth and its place in the universe. The course leads students toward a clearer understanding of geology, oceanography, meteorology, and astronomy. As students refine and expand their understanding of Earth science, they will apply their knowledge in investigations that require them to ask questions and explore the world around them. Throughout the course, students will also solve problems, reason abstractly, and learn to think critically.

### Course Objectives

Throughout the course, you will meet the following goals:

- Examine the interactions of Earth's systems and cycles.
- Investigate the properties and formation of rocks and minerals.
- Relate the structure of Earth's interior to plate movement.
- Explore the effects of physical processes on geologic features.
- Investigate the evidence that supports the theory that Earth has evolved.
- Analyze atmospheric conditions and predict the weather.
- Demonstrate an understanding of the universe and solar system.
- Explain the causes and effects of environmental change, including resource use.

### Student Expectations

This course requires the same level of commitment from you as a traditional classroom course would. Throughout the course, you are expected to spend approximately 5–7 hours per week online on the following activities:

- Interactive lessons that include a mixture of instructional videos and tasks
- Assignments in which you apply and extend learning
- Assessments, including quizzes, tests, and cumulative exams

## Communication

Your teacher will communicate with you regularly through discussions, email, chat, and system announcements. You will also communicate with classmates, either via online tools or face to face, as you collaborate on projects, ask and answer questions in your peer group, and develop your speaking and listening skills.

## Grading Policy

You will be graded on the work you do online and the work you submit electronically to your teacher. The weighting for each category of graded activity is listed below:

Grading Category	Weight
Quiz	20%
Test	30%
Exam	20%
Assignment	10%
Lab	10%
Additional	0%
Project	10%

## Scope and Sequence

When you log into Edgenuity, you can view the entire course map—an interactive scope and sequence of all topics you will study. The units of study are summarized below:

**Unit 1:** Earth and Its Organisms

**Unit 2:** Rocks and Minerals

**Unit 3:** Dynamic Earth

**Unit 4:** Earth's Surfaces

**Unit 5:** Earth's History

**Unit 6:** Earth's Waters

**Unit 7:** Earth's Atmosphere

**Unit 8:** Weather and Climate

**Unit 9:** Earth's Resources

**Unit 10:** Beyond Earth