

What Is Earth Science?

KEY IDEAS

As you read this section, keep these questions in mind:

- What are two cultures that contributed to modern science?
- What are the four main branches of Earth science?
- How do Earth scientists help us understand the world?

How Did Ancient People Study Earth?

People have wondered about natural events on Earth for thousands of years. They felt earthquakes shake the ground, saw volcanoes erupt, and watched eclipses darken the sky.

Some people created myths or stories to explain how these events happened. Others carefully watched and studied these events. They tried to learn what caused the events. Each time someone discovered a possible cause, it helped people develop explanations for other events.

The table below shows some historical observations that were important to the study of Earth.

Approximate Date	Development
780 BCE	People in China began to keep records about earthquakes.
200 BCE	Ancient Greeks gathered and recorded information about rocks and minerals.
300–900 CE	Ancient Maya watched the moon and recorded information about eclipses.
1600s	The microscope was invented.
1700s	The telescope was invented.

For a long time, people could use only their unaided eyes to study Earth and space. After the telescope and microscope were invented, people could observe objects and events more clearly. For example, Galileo used a telescope to see Jupiter's moons.

Today, scientists continue to study the natural world. **Earth science** is the study of Earth and the universe around it. Earth scientists use observations and experiments to find the causes of events in nature. 

READING TOOLBOX

Organize As you read this section, make a spider map that identifies the major branches of Earth science. Add details about each branch, such as what it focuses on and how knowledge from that branch can be helpful to society.



READING CHECK

1. Define What is Earth science?

Earth Science Holt Mcdougal Answer Section Review

Hrw,Holt Rinehart & Winston



Earth Science Holt McDougal Answer Section Review:

Section Reviews Modern Earth Science Holt Rinehart & Winston, Holt, Rinehart and Winston Staff, 1998-01-01

Holt Science and Technology Holt Rinehart & Winston, Holt, Rinehart and Winston Staff, 2000-05 Holt McDougal

Earth Science: Review Guide, 2010 **Holt Earth Science** Holt, Rinehart and Winston Staff, 1994-01-01 **Holt**

McDougal Earth Science: Guia de Repaso - Review Guide, 2010 *Not Available*, Holt McDougal Earth Science:

Long-Term Projects with Answer Key, 2010 Holt McDougal Earth Science: Interactive Reader and Study Guide Answer

Key, 2010 Holt Earth Science Holt, Rinehart and Winston Staff, 1994-01-01 **Holt Science and Technology** Holt

Rinehart & Winston, 2004-02 Holt Science and Technology Holt Rinehart & Winston, 2000-04 Earth Science Power

Pack Edward J. Denecke (Jr), 2001-05-20 **California Holt Earth Science Standards Review Workbook** Hrw, Holt

Rinehart & Winston, 2007-01-01 **El-Hi Textbooks and Serials in Print**, 2003 **Holt California Physical Science**

, 2007* Let's Review: Earth Science Edward J. Denecke, 2009-09-01 Designed especially to help prepare students taking the New York State Regents Examination this book makes a valuable supplementary text for high school level Earth Science classes throughout the country Organized into three main study units astronomy meteorology and geology this book provides extensive subject review material with updated questions and answers It also includes one recently given full length Regents Exam in Earth Science **Earth Science: the Physical Setting** Paola Santagostino, Prentice Hall (School Division), 2005

Focusing on the Earth Science content tested on the Regents Examination this thorough review guide contains extensive vocabulary review questions and Memory Jogger and Digging Deeper features Hundreds of practice questions organized in the Regents Examination format help students familiarize themselves with look and feel of the actual exam **El-Hi**

Textbooks & Serials in Print, 2005, 2005 **UPCO's Physical Setting - EARTH SCIENCE** Robert B. Sigda, 2010-09

Earth Science Review Book is user friendly for both the teacher and the student Since the content is aligned with the New York State Core Curriculum for Physical Setting Earth Science a teacher can feel confident that all the required topics are sufficiently developed The suggested outline of units moves from the concrete material to the more abstract subjects such as meteorology and astronomy Throughout the book there is ample opportunity for review of basic skills and ways to tie in the various units For example isolines are discussed early in the year and then revisited later in the weather topics The student has the opportunity to use the book as both a reference and a workbook The extensive number of constructed response items as well as multiple choice questions found interspersed within the topics give ample practice The multiple Regents Exams found at the back of the book can be used both at the end of the course for review and whenever appropriate throughout the year Let's Review Edward J. Denecke, 2001 Reviews topics in astronomy geology and meteorology and includes a sample New York State Regents Exam

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