

## Rationale

In a world of global issues, the student needs to develop an understanding of the natural world, the impact of humans on nature, ways of managing Earth's resources, and using science as a tool for making informed decisions. The course will proceed at a pace and level appropriate for the student who has difficulty learning scientific principles.

## Course Description

This course provides an introduction to the study of Earth's place in the Universe, Earth Systems, and the impact of Human activity on the Earth at a pace and level appropriate for the student who has difficulty learning scientific principles. The student studies and measures the interactions of matter, energy, and relationships in an ecosystem, the history of the earth and its systems, weather and climate, and human sustainability. Emphasis is placed on human interactions with the environment and the earth's systems.

## Prerequisites

Approval by 8th grade teacher.

## Course Objectives

1. The student will demonstrate the use of models and carry out investigations into Earth's systems and human interactions.
2. The student will analyze data, use data to support positions regarding human impact, and draw written conclusions from the data. (A+ Writing)
3. The student will discuss, explain, and develop models of the ways the Earth's processes control the appearance of the Earth's surface. (A+ Speaking and Listening)
4. The student will research a variety of environmental issues and propose solutions to these issues in a formal presentation. (A+ Research)
5. The student will read and analyze researched texts on environmental issues from peer-reviewed databases. (A+ Reading)

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