

Name _____

Skills Class

INTRODUCTON TO EARTH SCIENCE

I. What is Earth Science?

Earth Science is defined as the study of the planet earth and its place within the universe. We study the solid portions of the earth, its oceans, and its atmosphere.

II. Branches of Earth Science

A. Geology : _____.

1. Includes origin, history, and structure of the earth
2. Includes the processes that shape its surface

B. Astronomy: _____.

1. Includes solar system (planets, moons, comets)
2. Includes other stars beyond our sun

C. Meteorology: _____.

1. Includes weather forecasting
2. Includes issues like climate change and pollution

D. Oceanography: _____.

1. Includes history of the rocks on the ocean floor
2. Includes ocean currents
3. Includes effect of oceans on weather / climate

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Worksheet: Recent Earth Science Events

Place each recent event in Earth Science into the proper category. Write the abbreviation for each category in the blank provided: Geology (G), Astronomy (A), Meteorology (M) or Oceanography (O).

- ____ Aug. 27, 1999 Hurricane Dennis batters the Bahamas with powerful 80 m.p.h. winds.
- ____ August 1999 Scientists at Goddard Space Flight Center observe iron gas being pulled into a suspected black hole at a rate of 6.5 million miles per hour.
- ____ Aug. 17, 1999 An earthquake measuring 7.4 on the Richter scale devastates Izmit, Turkey.
- ____ Aug. 11, 1999 Total eclipse of the sun is visible in northern Europe.
- ____ July 1999 High temperatures cause over 80 fatalities in the midwestern and northeastern U.S.
- ____ May 3, 1999 Huge tornadoes sweep through Kansas and Oklahoma with winds up to 318 m.p.h.
- ____ Jan 1-2, 1999 Chicago receives 22 inches of snow in two days.
- ____ Sept. 3, 1998 Fishermen report an influx of tropical fish to waters warmed by El-Nino off the coast of San Francisco, California.
- ____ Aug. 28, 1998 Typhoon Amber slams into Taiwan with 100 m.p.h. winds.
- ____ July 17, 1998 At 6:49 P.M. a magnitude 7.1 earthquake strikes 30 kilometers of coastline in Papua New Guinea.
- ____ July 17, 1998 By 7:05 P.M., tsunami waves over 15 meters high hit the coastline of Papua New Guinea, killing more than 2200 villagers.
- ____ Dec. 3, 1997 Temperatures of -77° Fahrenheit are recorded at Daneburg in Greenland.
- ____ Nov. 28, 1997 Gusty winds in New York City tear into a Macy's Thanksgiving Parade balloon, causing it to knock over a street lamp which hit a bystander.
- ____ Nov. 20, 1997 Lightning strikes a primary school in Iringa, Tanzania, killing eight children.
- ____ July 11, 1997 A 110 lb. meteor tears through a factory roof in Campinas, Brazil. No one was reported injured.
- ____ April 9, 1997 Brilliant displays of northern and southern lights occur as charged particles released from a solar flare reach Earth's atmosphere.
- ____ March 16, 1997 Comet Hale-Bopp adorns the western sky after sunset.
- ____ Dec. 3, 1996 Manam Volcano in Papua New Guinea erupts violently. The village of Buduwa, which was relocated after a volcanic eruption in 1957, is destroyed again. 17 people are injured and at least 2 are killed.