

**Earth/Environmental Science**  
**Unit 1: What Is Earth Science**

**Big Ideas:**

How does matter move through the systems of Earth?

How is energy stored and transferred through the systems of Earth?

How do scientists determine fact?

**Learning Targets:**

- 1.1 - I can understand and explain laboratory safety rules
- 1.2 - I can understand and implement experimental design
- 1.3 - I can understand and explain the different branches of Earth Science
- 1.4 - I can understand and explain class policies and procedures

**Essential Vocabulary:**

|                      |                       |             |
|----------------------|-----------------------|-------------|
| Conceptual Model     | Earth Science         | Observation |
| Experimental Control | Environmental Science | Hypothesis  |
| Dependent Variable   | Geology               | Theory      |
| Hypothesis           | Meteorology           | Law         |
| Independent Variable | Climatology           | Experiment  |
| Mathematical Model   | Oceanography          | Data        |
| Scientific Model     | Astronomy             | Conclusion  |
| Physical Model       | Hydrosphere           | Biosphere   |
| Scientific Method    | Lithosphere           | Theory      |

**Assignments**

| Assignment Name                         | Grade/ Comments | Completed |
|---|-----------------|-----------|
| 1.1 Reading Questions                   |                 |           |
| Scientific Method Article and Questions |                 |           |
| Scientific Method Lab                   |                 |           |
| Scientific Method Practice              |                 |           |
| Defined Vocabulary                      |                 |           |
| 1.2 Reading Questions                   |                 |           |
| Intro Video                             |                 |           |
| Writing Prompts                         |                 |           |
| Accurate Table of Contents              |                 |           |

**Writing Prompts:**

1. Which branch(es) of Earth science is/are most relevant to human life? What sorts of discoveries might be made in this branch that could help sustain human life in the future?
2. Why is it important to study each branch of Earth science? What might be the repercussions of studying only a couple of branches?
4. An important step of the scientific method is to do background research. During this step, what should you research before you begin the experiment?

