

MATERIAL COVERED:

The Geography 12 course is divided into three main sections.

The Nature of Geography

- Introduction to the Nature of Geography
- Interpreting Geographic Data
- Internal Sources of the Earth's Energy
- Plate Tectonics
- External Sources of the Earth's Energy

Systems of the Earth

- The Atmosphere: Climate and Weather
- The Hydrosphere: The Hydrologic Cycle
- Natural Vegetation and Soil Systems
- Gradation Processes

Resources of the Earth

- The Environment and World Ecosystems
- Air and Water Resources
- Land and Energy Resources

TEXTBOOKS:

The course uses the following

Planet Earth: A Physical Geography

(ISBN 0-471-79486-4, Wiley)

Understanding Our Environment

(ISBN 0-19-541241-9, Oxford)

EVALUATION:

This course works on a mastery system. You must pass the mastery tests in each unit to the 80% level before you can go on. In addition, there are cumulative tests from time to time. These can only be taken once, so it is essential to study hard and do your best work on them. Projects may only be submitted once. They are treated like cumulative tests. Your school mark for the course is based 60% on the mastery tests and 40% on the cumulative tests.

Students are reminded that this is a provincially examinable course. The mark you receive from your teacher counts for only 60% of your final mark for the course. The other 40% comes from the provincial exam you must write. Be sure to ask your teacher for a practice provincial exam that you can write and mark, before you write the real thing.

GOAL

The goal of this unit is to introduce the nature of physical geography.

OBJECTIVES

While completing this unit you will:

- Become familiar with the questions and issues that are useful for the study of physical geography.
- Investigate what are some of the fundamental ideas in physical geography.
- Determine how physical geography relates to other areas of study.

WHAT TO DO IN THIS UNIT

- This unit uses the textbook *Planet Earth: a Physical Geography*, Chapter 1.
- Ask your teacher for the Unit 1 worksheet.
- Read Chapter 1, then answer the questions in Part A of the Unit 1 Worksheet.
- Be sure to read the Review section on p.14 and be sure that you understand the concepts there. If you don't understand any of the Geographic Terms in the list, be sure that you look them up in the glossary at the back of the textbook.
- When you are ready, ask your teacher for the Unit 1 Test. Remember, you must get 80% to pass, so studying hard is essential.