

# THE LITHOSPHERE

## Details

### Grades

These lessons have been designed for a high school level (9 – 12), but they can be adapted to lower grades by simplifying the information provided.

### Standards

This content is aligned with the following North Carolina Department of Public Instruction (NCDPI) standard.

- *EEn 2.1. Explain how processes and forces affect the lithosphere.*

and the following NGSS standards:

- *HS-ESS2-1 and ESS2-5 Earth's Systems*
- *HS-ESS3-1 Earth and Human Activity*
- *HS-ETS1-1 and ETS1-2 Engineering Design*

## Topic Progression Plan

The suggested progression plan covers content which is crucial for the understanding of the practical lessons provided, although lessons could be developed independently. Highlighted lessons are those provided in this series.

- Brief reminder of the different layers of the earth with its subdivisions (Core: Inner/Outer, Mantle: Lower/Upper with special emphasis on the Asthenosphere, Crust: Bedrock and weathered materials).
- The Rock Cycle (*EEn.2.1.1*)
- Weathering and Erosion: Types, influence of climate, topography, and rock composition. (*EEn.2.1.3*)
- Soil Texture Lesson (*EEn.2.1.3*)
- Geohazards: Landslides, earthquakes, tsunamis, sinkholes, groundwater pollution, and flooding (*EEn.2.1.4*)

- Plate Tectonics: motion, types of plate boundaries, locations, and their corresponding geographical landforms. (*EEn.2.1.1*)
- Volcano hands-on practice (possible experiment with H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> and NaI, Alka seltzer contained plastic wrap, wax volcano) (*EEn.2.1.1*)
- Shake Table Lesson (*EEn.2.1.1/ EEn.2.1.2; HS-ESS2-1; HS-ESS3-1; HS-ETS1-1; HS-ETS1-2*)
- Material Xylophone Lesson (*EEn.2.1.1/EEn.2.1.2/EEn.2.1.4*)
- Liquefaction Lesson (*EEn.2.1.4; HS-ESS2-5; HS-ESS3-1; HS-ETS1-1; HS-ETS1-2*)
- Locating an Earthquake: Plates, Faults, and Maps (*EEn.2.1.1*)

## Resources

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