

Table of Contents

SUBAREA I. FOUNDATIONS OF SCIENTIFIC INQUIRY

COMPETENCY 1.0 UNDERSTAND THE GENERAL RELATIONSHIPS AND COMMON THEMES THAT CONNECT MATHEMATICS, SCIENCE, AND TECHNOLOGY 1

SKILL 1.1 Analyze similarities among systems in mathematics, science, and technology (e.g., magnitude and scale, equilibrium and stability, optimization) 1

SKILL 1.2 Apply concepts and theories from mathematics, biology, chemistry, and physics to an Earth Science system..... 1

SKILL 1.3 Analyze the use of Earth Science, mathematics, and other sciences in the design of a technological solution to a given problem 3

SKILL 1.4 Use a variety of software (e.g., spreadsheets, graphing utilities, statistical packages, simulations) and information technologies to model and analyze problems in mathematics, science, and technology 4

COMPETENCY 2.0 UNDERSTAND THE HISTORICAL AND CONTEMPORARY CONTEXTS OF THE EARTH SCIENCES AND THEIR APPLICATION TO EVERYDAY LIFE 5

SKILL 2.1 Analyze the significance of key events in the history of the Earth Sciences (e.g., the development of solar system models, the discovery of a galactic universe, the development of the plate tectonics model)..... 5

SKILL 2.2 Recognize the impact of society on the study of the Earth Sciences (e.g., increasing commercial demand for more accurate meteorological analyses; growing populations in earthquake-prone regions; expanding markets for oil, gas, and other nonrenewable resources)..... 6

SKILL 2.3 Assess the implications for society of Earth Science phenomena in a variety of regions (e.g., volcanoes, earthquakes, erosion, rising sea levels) 7

TEACHER CERTIFICATION STUDY GUIDE

| | | |
|-----------------------|--|-----------|
| SKILL 2.4 | Analyze Earth's hazards (e.g., earthquakes, volcanoes, hurricanes, tornadoes, drought) and their effects upon humans to develop plans for emergency preparedness..... | 9 |
| SKILL 2.5 | Recognize the applications of Earth science related technology to everyday life (e.g., GPS, weather satellites, cellular communication) | 13 |
| COMPETENCY 3.0 | UNDERSTAND THE PROCESS OF SCIENTIFIC INQUIRY AND THE ROLE OF OBSERVATION AND EXPERIMENTATION IN EXPLAINING NATURAL PHENOMENA | 15 |
| SKILL 3.1 | Analyze processes by which scientific knowledge develops | 15 |
| SKILL 3.2 | Assess the appropriateness of a specified experimental design to test a given hypothesis | 16 |
| SKILL 3.3 | Assess the role of communication among scientists in promoting scientific progress..... | 17 |
| COMPETENCY 4.0 | UNDERSTAND THE PROCESSES OF GATHERING, ORGANIZING, REPORTING, AND INTERPRETING SCIENTIFIC DATA; AND APPLY THIS UNDERSTANDING IN THE CONTEXT OF EARTH SCIENCE INVESTIGATIONS | 18 |
| SKILL 4.1 | Evaluate the appropriateness of a given method or procedure for collecting data for a specified purpose | 18 |
| SKILL 4.2 | Select an appropriate and effective graphic representation (e.g., graph, table, diagram) for organizing, analyzing, and reporting given data..... | 18 |
| SKILL 4.3 | Apply procedures and criteria for reporting investigative procedures and data..... | 18 |
| SKILL 4.4 | Analyze relationships between factors (e.g., cyclic, inverse, direct, linear) as indicated by data..... | 19 |

TEACHER CERTIFICATION STUDY GUIDE

| | | |
|-----------------------|--|-----------|
| COMPETENCY 5.0 | UNDERSTAND TYPES AND USES OF NATURAL RESOURCES, THE EFFECTS OF HUMAN ACTIVITIES ON THE ENVIRONMENT, AND THE NEED FOR STEWARDSHIP TO PRESERVE THE ENVIRONMENTAL INTEGRITY OF EARTH SYSTEMS | 22 |
| SKILL 5.1 | Demonstrate an understanding of the uses and importance of natural resources..... | 22 |
| SKILL 5.2 | Recognize methods of locating and obtaining natural resources .. | 22 |
| SKILL 5.3 | Assess the positive and negative effects of human activities (e.g., mining, waste disposal) on Earth's environment | 23 |
| SKILL 5.4 | Evaluate strategies for dealing with environmental concerns (e.g., buying and selling carbon credits)..... | 26 |
| COMPETENCY 6.0 | UNDERSTAND HOW TO CREATE, USE, AND INTERPRET PHYSICAL AND MATHEMATICAL MODELS (E.G., MAPS, CHARTS, GRAPHS, DIAGRAMS, EQUATIONS) COMMONLY USED IN EARTH SCIENCE | 27 |
| SKILL 6.1 | Evaluate the appropriateness of alternative models for conveying given information from Earth Science..... | 27 |
| SKILL 6.2 | Demonstrate an understanding of the methods by which given physical and graphic models are created..... | 28 |
| SKILL 6.3 | Classify different types of maps (e.g., topographic, star charts, weather) used in Earth Science and analyzing the information conveyed by each type of map..... | 29 |
| SKILL 6.4 | Interpret diagrams relating to Earth Science (e.g., cross-sections, seismic wave graphs)..... | 37 |
| COMPETENCY 7.0 | UNDERSTAND EQUIPMENT AND MATERIALS USED IN EARTH SCIENCE INVESTIGATIONS, AND APPLY PROCEDURES FOR THEIR PROPER AND SAFE USE | 40 |
| SKILL 7.1 | Identify the principles upon which given instruments (e.g., telescope, spectroscope, compass) are based | 40 |
| SKILL 7.2 | Demonstrate knowledge and applications of basic safety procedures in laboratory and field situations | 41 |

SUBAREA II.

SPACE SYSTEMS

COMPETENCY 8.0 UNDERSTAND THE STRUCTURE, COMPOSITION, AND FEATURES OF EARTH, THE MOON, AND THE SUN..... 43

SKILL 8.1 Demonstrate an understanding of the physical characteristics of Earth (e.g., diameter, tilt of axis, distance from the Sun) and how they can be determined 43

SKILL 8.2 Identify characteristics of the Sun (e.g., nucleogenesis)..... 43

SKILL 8.3 Relate surface features of Earth's moon (e.g., maria, craters, mountains) to events in the history of the Moon 44

SKILL 8.4 Recognize the importance of density in the formation of the internal structure of Earth, the Moon, and the Sun 45

COMPETENCY 9.0 UNDERSTAND THE INTERACTIONS AMONG THE COMPONENTS OF THE EARTH, MOON, AND SUN SYSTEM (INCLUDING ENERGY TRANSMISSION AND ABSORPTION) 46

SKILL 9.1 Demonstrate an understanding of the consequences of Earth's relative position and motion with respect to the Sun (e.g., length of day, change of seasons, length of year)..... 46

SKILL 9.2 Relate Earth's coordinate system (e.g., latitude and longitude) to astronomical observations..... 46

SKILL 9.3 Analyze the consequences of the relative positions and motions of Earth, the Moon, and the Sun (e.g., phases of the Moon, tides, eclipses)..... 48

SKILL 9.4 Demonstrate an understanding that the Sun is the major source of energy for Earth's surface 50

SKILL 9.5 Analyze the Sun's activity (e.g., sunspots, solar flares) and its possible effects on Earth..... 50

TEACHER CERTIFICATION STUDY GUIDE

COMPETENCY 10.0 UNDERSTAND THE SCALE AND ORGANIZATION OF THE SOLAR SYSTEM, THE ROLE OF GRAVITY IN THE SOLAR SYSTEM, AND CHARACTERISTICS OF THE BODIES WITHIN THE SOLAR SYSTEM..... 51

SKILL 10.1 Analyze characteristics of the planets (e.g., size, density, inferred interior structure, surface temperature) 51

SKILL 10.2 Analyze the apparent motion of celestial objects to infer solar system models (i.e., geocentric and heliocentric) 55

SKILL 10.3 Recognizing physical and mathematical models (e.g., Newton's and Kepler's laws) that describe objects in the solar system and their real and apparent motions 56

COMPETENCY 11.0 UNDERSTAND THE PROPERTIES, MOTIONS, AND LIFE CYCLES OF STARS AND THE METHODS AND TECHNOLOGY USED TO STUDY THEM 57

SKILL 11.1 Compare and contrast types of telescopes (e.g., optical, radio, infrared, ultraviolet) and the ways in which they are used to acquire information on star characteristics 57

SKILL 11.2 Compare and contrast types of stars (e.g., pulsars, Cepheid variables) and their characteristics 60

SKILL 11.3 Use the Hertzsprung-Russell (H-R) diagram to analyze the life cycle of stars 61

SKILL 11.4 Analyze stellar life cycles to understand the formation and initial development of the solar system 62

TEACHER CERTIFICATION STUDY GUIDE

| | | |
|------------------------|--|-----------|
| COMPETENCY 12.0 | UNDERSTAND EVIDENCE REGARDING THE ORIGIN, AGE, SIZE, STRUCTURE, SCALE, AND MOTIONS OF THE UNIVERSE, THE MILKY WAY GALAXY, AND THE SOLAR SYSTEM | 64 |
| SKILL 12.1 | Analyze evidence for the location of the solar system within the Milky Way Galaxy | 64 |
| SKILL 12.2 | Analyze historical methods of inferring the size, structure, and motions of the galaxy and the solar system (e.g., star observations and counts) | 65 |
| SKILL 12.3 | Analyze the evidence for current theories of the origin and evolution of Earth, the solar system, and the universe (e.g., Big Bang, inflation) | 67 |
| SKILL 12.4 | Analyze types of evidence used to infer scales of the solar system, the Milky Way galaxy, and the universe (e.g., in relation to relative size and distance) | 68 |
| SKILL 12.5 | Recognize the historical, present, and future role of technology and exploration in obtaining knowledge about the universe | 69 |

SUBAREA III. ATMOSPHERIC SYSTEMS

| | | |
|------------------------|---|-----------|
| COMPETENCY 13.0 | UNDERSTAND THE COMPOSITION, STRUCTURE, AND PROPERTIES OF EARTH'S ATMOSPHERE AND THE MECHANISMS AND EFFECTS OF ENERGY TRANSFER INVOLVING THE EARTH ATMOSPHERE SYSTEM | 71 |
| SKILL 13.1 | Compare and contrast properties of the atmosphere (e.g., density, composition, temperature) from Earth's surface through the thermosphere and understanding the significance of changes in these properties | 71 |
| SKILL 13.2 | Analyze how various wavelengths of solar radiation (e.g., ultraviolet, visible light, infrared) are affected as the radiation enters and passes through the atmosphere and is absorbed and re-radiated from Earth's surface | 74 |
| SKILL 13.3 | Analyze the processes by which energy is transferred to and within the atmosphere (e.g., radiation, convection, conduction) | 76 |

TEACHER CERTIFICATION STUDY GUIDE

SKILL 13.4 Analyze global wind patterns in terms of latitudinal and altitudinal variations in insolation and the Coriolis effect..... 76

COMPETENCY 14.0 UNDERSTAND THE PROPERTIES OF WATER, CONDITIONS IN THE ATMOSPHERE THAT RESULT IN PHASE CHANGES, AND THE ENERGY RELATIONSHIPS OF PHASE CHANGES TO CLOUD FORMATION AND PRECIPITATION 80

SKILL 14.1 Relate the physical properties of water (e.g., high specific heat, surface tension) to the chemical structure and properties of water molecules..... 80

SKILL 14.2 Analyze energy changes involved in the transition between phases of water (e.g., latent heat) 81

SKILL 14.3 Analyze atmospheric conditions under which fog and clouds with various characteristics form (e.g., adiabatic temperature changes, dew point, atmospheric stability)..... 82

SKILL 14.4 Understand conditions under which precipitation forms and predicting the type of precipitation that will fall to Earth's surface under given conditions 86

COMPETENCY 15.0 UNDERSTAND CHARACTERISTICS OF WEATHER SYSTEMS AND LOCAL WEATHER, THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THEM, AND THE METHODS AND INSTRUMENTS USED TO COLLECT AND DISPLAY WEATHER DATA 88

SKILL 15.1 Interpret symbols used on weather maps and analyzing the methods used to generate weather maps (e.g., computer models)..... 88

SKILL 15.2 Analyze types and characteristics of air masses, their movements, and the kinds of fronts that form between air masses 96

SKILL 15.3 Analyze the relationship between the jet stream and weather..... 97

SKILL 15.4 Analyze the horizontal and vertical movements of surface air in high-pressure and low-pressure systems 97

TEACHER CERTIFICATION STUDY GUIDE

| | | |
|------------------------|---|------------|
| SKILL 15.5 | Analyze the effects of the relationship between land and water on weather (e.g., lake-effect snow, land and sea breezes) | 98 |
| SKILL 15.6 | Demonstrate an understanding of the use of weather Instruments (e.g., thermometer, barometer, psychrometer) for collecting given types of weather data..... | 98 |
| COMPETENCY 16.0 | UNDERSTAND THE IMPACT OF WEATHER ON HUMANS AND THE PRINCIPLES AND TECHNOLOGY OF WEATHER FORECASTING | 100 |
| SKILL 16.1 | Analyze the use of weather models in forecasting | 100 |
| SKILL 16.2 | Predict weather in a given location based on one or more weather maps | 101 |
| SKILL 16.3 | Evaluate the role of computers, satellites, and radars in weather forecasting | 102 |
| SKILL 16.4 | Analyze types and effects of hazardous weather to determine appropriate precautions and demonstrating an understanding of the role of weather services in issuing weather alerts | 103 |
| SKILL 16.5 | Analyze the impact of weather on humans in different climatic regions..... | 110 |
| COMPETENCY 17.0 | UNDERSTAND THE LOCATIONS AND CHARACTERISTICS OF EARTH'S MAJOR CLIMATIC REGIONS AND ANALYZE FACTORS THAT AFFECT LOCAL CLIMATE AND THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN WEATHER AND CLIMATE..... | 113 |
| SKILL 17.1 | Infer the climatic zone in which a given area is located based on temperature and precipitation data | 113 |
| SKILL 17.2 | Analyze factors that affect the climate in a given region (e.g., insolation, water vapor, wind patterns, topography) | 115 |
| SKILL 17.3 | Analyze the relationship between the climate of a region and its weather | 118 |
| SKILL 17.4 | Recognize seasonal changes in weather in various world regions and analyze factors that influence these changes (e.g., insolation, ocean current patterns) | 119 |

TEACHER CERTIFICATION STUDY GUIDE

COMPETENCY 18.0 UNDERSTAND THE IMPACT OF HUMAN ACTIVITIES AND NATURAL PROCESSES ON THE ATMOSPHERE, THEORIES ABOUT THE LONG-RANGE EFFECTS OF HUMAN ACTIVITIES ON GLOBAL CLIMATE, AND METHODS OF CONTROLLING AND MINIMIZING THESE EFFECTS 122

SKILL 18.1 Identify common air pollutants (e.g., sulfur dioxide, chlorofluorocarbons) and their sources and demonstrating an understanding of the effects of air pollutants and atmospheric chemical reactions involving these pollutants 122

SKILL 18.2 Demonstrate an understanding of factors that affect local air pollutant concentrations (e.g., population density)..... 123

SKILL 18.3 Analyze theories of global climate change (e.g., greenhouse effect, glaciation) 124

SUBAREA IV. GEOLOGICAL SYSTEMS

COMPETENCY 19.0 UNDERSTAND GEOCHEMICAL SYSTEMS, THE PROCESSES OF MINERAL AND ROCK FORMATION, AND THE CHARACTERISTICS OF DIFFERENT TYPES OF MINERALS AND ROCKS AND THE METHODS USED TO IDENTIFY AND CLASSIFY THEM..... 129

SKILL 19.1 Demonstrate the ability to utilize a classification scheme (e.g., based on physical properties, crystal structure, chemical composition) to identify common rock-forming minerals 129

SKILL 19.2 Analyze the processes by which different kinds of rocks are formed (e.g., rock cycle)..... 133

SKILL 19.3 Classify a given rock as sedimentary, igneous, or metamorphic..... 139

TEACHER CERTIFICATION STUDY GUIDE

| | | |
|------------------------|--|------------|
| COMPETENCY 20.0 | UNDERSTAND THE STRUCTURE OF EARTH, THE DYNAMIC FORCES THAT SHAPE ITS SURFACE, THEORIES AND EVIDENCE OF CRUSTAL MOVEMENTS, AND THE EFFECTS OF CRUSTAL MOVEMENTS ON LANDSCAPES | 141 |
| SKILL 20.1 | Demonstrate an understanding of how Earth's internal structure can be inferred from the behavior of seismic waves..... | 141 |
| SKILL 20.2 | Relate lithospheric plate movements to circulation in the mantle..... | 142 |
| SKILL 20.3 | Analyze evidence for seafloor spreading and plate tectonics (e.g., magnetic reversals)..... | 143 |
| SKILL 20.4 | Apply the theory of plate tectonics to explain ocean floor topography, landscape development, and geologic phenomena (e.g., volcanism, earthquakes) and to predict plate motions | 144 |
| COMPETENCY 21.0 | UNDERSTAND WEATHERING, EROSIONAL, AND DEPOSITIONAL PROCESSES THAT CHANGE EARTH'S SURFACE AND THE RELATION BETWEEN THESE PROCESSES AND LANDSCAPE DEVELOPMENT | 146 |
| SKILL 21.1 | Demonstrate an understanding of the processes of mechanical/physical, chemical, and biological weathering and factors that affect the rate at which rocks weather and soils are produced | 146 |
| SKILL 21.2 | Demonstrate an understanding of the processes of erosion by various agents (e.g., wind, water, glaciers) and factors that affect erosion rates and patterns | 148 |
| SKILL 21.3 | Relate depositional patterns to the properties of the transported particles | 150 |
| SKILL 21.4 | Demonstrate an understanding of the processes by which given landscape features are formed | 151 |

TEACHER CERTIFICATION STUDY GUIDE

COMPETENCY 22.0 UNDERSTAND CHARACTERISTICS OF THE MAJOR GEOLOGIC TIME DIVISIONS AND THEORIES AND SUPPORTING EVIDENCE REGARDING EARTH'S GEOLOGIC HISTORY AND THE EVOLUTION OF LIFE..... 154

SKILL 22.1 Applying the principles of stratigraphy (e.g., principle of original horizontality, principle of superposition) to interpret diagrams of rock strata 154

SKILL 22.2 Demonstrate an understanding of the principles, applications, and limits of radioactive dating 155

SKILL 22.3 Compare and contrast the environmental conditions and characteristic fossils of the various geologic periods 156

SKILL 22.4 Use stratigraphic and paleontological information to infer the geologic history of a given area 159

SKILL 22.5 Apply the fossil record as evidence for evolutionary change..... 160

SUBAREA V. WATER SYSTEMS

COMPETENCY 23.0 UNDERSTAND THE PROCESSES BY WHICH WATER MOVES THROUGH THE HYDROLOGIC CYCLE, AND USE THIS KNOWLEDGE TO ANALYZE LOCAL WATER BUDGETS..... 161

SKILL 23.1 Analyze the components of the hydrologic cycle (e.g., evaporation, runoff, transpiration, infiltration) 161

SKILL 23.2 Evaluate the effects of various factors (e.g., vegetation, gradient, rock characteristics) on components of a local water budget 162

SKILL 23.3 Analyze the energy transformations that occur as water moves through the hydrologic cycle..... 164

TEACHER CERTIFICATION STUDY GUIDE

COMPETENCY 24.0 UNDERSTAND THE PROCESSES BY WHICH WATER MOVES ON AND BENEATH EARTH'S SURFACE ... 165

- SKILL 24.1 Analyze the role of the hydrologic cycle in shaping Earth's surface 165
- SKILL 24.2 Analyze the factors affecting the flow of water in streams (e.g., discharge, sediment load, cross-sectional shape)..... 167
- SKILL 24.3 Analyze factors affecting the movement of groundwater (e.g., permeability, aquifers, gradient) 169
- SKILL 24.4 Analyze a cross-sectional diagram of a water table and surrounding regolith and bedrock to predict the movement of groundwater and the behavior of wells..... 169
- SKILL 24.5 Analyze the interactions between groundwater and surface water (e.g., springs, swamps, marshes)..... 172

COMPETENCY 25.0 UNDERSTAND THE STRUCTURE, COMPOSITION, AND PROPERTIES OF EARTH'S OCEANS AND THE CAUSES AND PROPERTIES OF CURRENTS AND WAVES 173

- SKILL 25.1 Analyze the composition of seawater (e.g., elements, dissolved gases, salinity)..... 173
- SKILL 25.2 Analyze the relationship between the physical properties of ocean water (e.g., temperature, pressure, density, light) and depth 173
- SKILL 25.3 Analyze forces that affect ocean currents (e.g., Coriolis effect, wind, density)..... 174

Sample Test..... 176

Answer Key 187

Rationales for Sample Questions..... 188