

MEA 8th grade benchmark -

Describe factors that can cause short-term and long-term changes to the earth.

From learning results:

MIDDLE GRADES 5-8

3. Explain the evidence scientists use when they give the age of the earth.
4. Describe factors that can cause short-term and long-term changes to the earth.
5. Classify and identify rocks and minerals based on their physical and chemical properties, their composition, and the processes which formed them.
6. Describe the many products used by humans that are derived from materials in the earth's crust.
7. Demonstrate factors effecting the flow of groundwater.

EXAMPLES

- Collect and analyze soil samples from various locations in the community.
- Study weather fronts as well as short-term catastrophic events (e.g., hurricanes and tornadoes).

Ideas:

- Using net logo/ computer models to enforce ideas of climate change and glaciation.
- Graphing results of data collection.
- Using data from Climate Analysis web site to build climate models students can use for comparisons.