

## **Title:** Spheres of the Earth

**Objective:** Review the spheres of the earth; discuss how the spheres are interdependent

**Time:** 5 – 10 minutes

**Materials Needed:** None

### **News and Announcements**

Suggested Season: Any

Suggested Grade Level: 3-5

Indoors or Outdoors: Either

Theme: Earth

Topic: Spheres of the Earth

### **Directions:**

1. On the News and Announcements chart write the following: “Choose a sphere below and write the name of an object that is part of that sphere.”
2. Under that divide the area into 4 sections and write one of the 4 spheres (atmosphere, lithospheres, biosphere and hydrosphere) at the top of each section.
3. It might be helpful to write a sample under one or more of the sections so the students have a model of what to do. For example, under lithosphere you might write “mountain” and under hydrosphere you might write “glacier.”

### **Discussion Questions:**

1. How are the spheres related?
2. Do you think one sphere is more important than another? Why or Why not?
3. Would changes in one of the spheres lead to changes in another sphere?
4. Could you live without one of the spheres? Why or why not?

## Standards Addressed:

Science: 2.1.1.2.1. ; 4.3.2.3.1.; 4.3.4.1.1.

Language Arts: K-5.III.A.1.; K.I.B.; K.II.B.; K.II.C.; K.II.E.1-2.; K.III.A.; I.I.A.; 1.II.A.2.; 1.III.A.; 1.III.B.; 1.III.B.1.; 2.I.C.10.; 2.II.A.2.; 2.III.A.; 5.I.B.2.; 5.III.A.1-2.

Math:

Social Studies: 4-8.V.C.; 4-8.V.D.

## Background Information:

**Atmos-:** air    **lithos-:** rock    **hydro-:** water    **bio-:** life    **+sphere:** relating to earth systems

- **Atmosphere:** air, gasses (oxygen, nitrogen, carbon dioxide, water vapor)
- **Lithosphere:** crust of the earth made up of the continental and oceanic plates (land, mountains, valleys, volcanoes, earthquakes, soil, rocks, etc.)
- **Hydrosphere:** water (oceans, seas, ice caps, ground water, surface water, water vapor, etc.)
- **Biosphere:** life (plants, animals, all organic matter including decomposing plants and animals)

## Additional Resources:

- <http://www.cotf.edu/ete/modules/k4/online/Eonline1.html>  
Earth system cards online matching game
- [http://www.classzone.com/books/earth\\_science/terc/content/investigations/es0103/es0103page02.cfm](http://www.classzone.com/books/earth_science/terc/content/investigations/es0103/es0103page02.cfm)  
Earth spheres
- <http://www.cotf.edu/ete/ESS/ESSmain.html>  
Explains interactions

## Correlates with:

Greeting – Spheres of the Earth Greeting

Activity – Four Spheres