

How Does the Biosphere Interact with other Earth Systems?

The many dynamic and delicate feedbacks between the biosphere and other Earth systems cause a continual co-evolution of Earth's surface and the life that exists on it.



When viewed from space, Earth looks like a big blue marble mixed with swirls of white. There are also parts that are green, yellow, and brown. The large areas of blue are the bodies of water that cover most of Earth's surface. The white areas are in the earth's atmosphere clouds as well as frozen water. The brown, yellow, and green areas are land. As you examine this photo, answer the following questions.

1. How do the different Earth systems contribute to sustaining life/biosphere on Earth?

a. Geosphere: _____

b. Hydrosphere: _____

c. Atmosphere: _____

2. How do these parts interact?

a. Biosphere to Hydrosphere: _____

b. Biosphere to Geosphere: _____

c. Biosphere to Atmosphere: _____

d. Hydrosphere to Geosphere: _____

e. Hydrosphere to Atmosphere: _____

f. Geosphere to Atmosphere: _____

Checking for understanding:

1. Why is it helpful to identify specialties and subspecialties in Earth science?

2. List 3 items that use on a daily basis that have come from studying Earth science and explain how it is connected to the Earth.

a. _____

b. _____

c. _____

3. How have humans impacted each of Earth's systems?

a. Geosphere: _____

b. Atmosphere: _____

c. Hydrosphere _____

d. Biosphere: _____

