

Mining in Maryland Voluntary State Curriculum Grades 5-8 Standards

The interdisciplinary *Mining in Maryland* unit addresses the science and social studies standards below, taken directly from the Voluntary State Curriculum website (<http://mdk12.org/mspp/vsc/>). Please visit the website for details such as indicators and assessment limits. English Language Arts standards are also addressed throughout the unit through a variety of reading, writing and collaborative peer activities.

Science

1.0 Skills and Processes – Students will demonstrate the thinking and acting inherent in the practice of science.

- A1. Constructing Knowledge - Design and carry out simple investigations and formulate appropriate conclusions based on data obtained.
- B1. Applying Evidence and Reasoning - Review data from a simple experiment, summarize the data, and construct a logical argument about the cause-and-effect relationships in the experiment.
- C1. Communicate Scientific Information - Develop explanations that explicitly link data from investigations conducted, selected readings and, when appropriate, contributions from historical discoveries.

2.0 Earth/Space Science – Students will use scientific skills and processes to explain the chemical and physical interactions (i.e., natural forces and cycles, transfer of energy) of the environment, Earth, and the universe that occur over time.

- A2. Materials and Processes That Shape A Planet - Cite evidence to demonstrate and explain that physical weathering and chemical weathering cause changes to Earth materials.

6.0 Environmental Science – Students will use scientific skills and processes to explain the interactions of environmental factors (living and nonliving) and analyze their impact from a local to a global perspective.

- A1. Natural Resources and Human Needs - Recognize and explain how renewable and nonrenewable natural resources are used by humans to meet basic needs.
- A1. Natural Resources and Human Needs Recognize and explain the impact of a changing human population on the use of natural resources and on environmental quality.

Social Studies

Standard 3.0 Geography: Students will use geographic concepts and processes to examine the role of culture, technology, and the environment in the location and distribution of human activities and spatial connections throughout time.

- Using Geographic Tools
- Geographic Characteristics of Places and Regions