

EARTH'S SPHERES

All of the nonliving things, living things, and processes that make up the planet Earth, including the solid Earth, the hydrosphere, the atmosphere, and the biosphere.

GEOSPHERE

The mostly solid, rocky part of Earth; extends from the center of the core to the surface of the crust.

CRYOSPHERE

One of the Earth's Spheres where water is in solid form, including snow cover, floating ice, glaciers, ice caps, ice sheets, and frozen ground permafrost.

ATMOSPHERE

A mixture of gases that surrounds a planet, moon, or other celestial body.

HYDROSPHERE

The portion of the Earth that is water.

BIOSPHERE

The part of Earth where life exists; includes all of the living organisms on Earth.

INTERACTION

The quality, state or process of (two or more things) acting on each other.

WATER CYCLE

The cycle of processes by which water circulates between the earth's oceans, atmosphere, and land, involving precipitation as rain and snow, drainage in streams and rivers, and return to the atmosphere by evaporation and transpiration.