

THE STANDARD

Protect Earth's Resources

Obtain and combine information about ways individual communities use science ideas to protect the Earth's resources and environment.

DCI

DISCIPLINARY
CORE IDEA

ESS3.C • Human Impacts on Earth Systems

"Human activities in agriculture, industry, and everyday life have had major effects on the land, vegetation, streams, ocean, air, and even outer space. But individuals and communities are doing things to help protect Earth's resources and environments."

This standard is about real people solving real problems. Humans change the land, water, and air. But communities also fix things. 5th graders gather information about an actual solution and explain how it protects a resource. **The science idea and the human action travel together in one explanation.**

SEP

SCIENCE &
ENGINEERING
PRACTICE

Obtaining, Evaluating, and Communicating Information

"Obtain and combine information from books and/or other reliable media to explain phenomena or solutions to a design problem."

5th graders don't make this up from memory. They go get information from real sources, a book, a kid-friendly article, a short video, and pull the useful parts together. Combining is the skill. One source might explain the problem and another explains the fix. **They merge both into one clear explanation.**

CCC

CROSSCUTTING
CONCEPT

Systems and System Models

"A system can be described in terms of its components and their interactions."

A community is a system. The parts are the people, the houses, the factories, the rivers, the trash, the trees. Those parts interact. When 5th graders study a solution, they see how changing one part changes another. Plant trees along a stream, and the soil stays put, so the water runs cleaner. **Parts affecting parts.**