Assessments

In this section, you can find assessment descriptions of various ways in which you can assess your students' learning, skills, prior knowledge and attitudes. We have descriptions of and examples for pre-assessments, projects, portfolios, student interviews, and teaching assessments.

Pre-Assessments

Portfolio Assessments

Student Interview Assessments

Project Assessments
Assessing Your Science Teaching

Search for K-5 Assessments

Perform a Quick Search using the search box below to find the 10 most relevant assessment resources in the Education GeoSource database.

Access the Education GeoSource database at: https://egs.americangeosciences.org

Enter your search terms

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GeoScience Videos Blog

Geoscience Videos

This GeoScience Videos blog provides support for instructors using the series of GeosScience Videos found on YouTube. The blog contains one-page quizzes for each short video as well as other related information such as in-class questions and activities. If you visit the blog's Assessment...

Resource Type: Assessments, Curricula and Instruction
Earthquake Quiz
Teacher Vision
A printable quiz regarding earthquakes. Questions test knowledge on what fault lines are, where most earthquakes in the US happen, what a seismograph measures, what tectonic plates are, what magnitude is, how long earthquakes usually last, and dangers to people during an earthquake. Students also...

Resource Type: Assessments, Curricula and Instruction
Grade Level: 4, 5

AAAS Science Assessment: Plate Tectonics
AAAS Science Assessment
This assessment on plate tectonics lists sub-ideas (core knowledge and information), as well as performance percentages for students in grades 6-8 and 9-12. The assessment also lists common misconceptions the students had regarding the subject material. Categories include the outer layer of the...

Resource Type: Assessments, Curricula and Instruction
Grade Level: 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12

Portfolio Assessments
American Geosciences Institute (AGI)
Portfolios, in assessment terms, are collections of students' work that demonstrate what they have learned and are able to do over a period of time. In science, it's a bit trickier to use the portfolio method to best advantage. Since the ultimate goal of the portfolio contents is to...

Resource Type: Assessments, Curricula and Instruction
Grade Level: K, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5

Pre-Assessment Items: Fossils
American Geosciences Institute (AGI)
Pre-assessment tasks help you to find out what knowledge, experiences, skills and attitudes your students have before you begin any science instruction. In some instances, you might find it useful to have students write their responses to a short set
of simple questions on the topic. Examples might...

**Resource Type:** Assessments, Curricula and Instruction  
**Grade Level:** K, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5

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**Project Assessments**  
American Geosciences Institute (AGI)  
Long, and short-term projects are great ways of assessing students' knowledge and presentation skills at the same time. In projects, students typically solve a problem, investigate a science issue, engage in a simulation, or a number of other activities. They then present their results in a...

**Resource Type:** Assessments, Curricula and Instruction  
**Grade Level:** K, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5

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**Student Interview Assessments**  
American Geosciences Institute (AGI)  
Student interviews are discussions with students about their understanding of scientific concepts and phenomena. You can do these with individual students or small groups, while the rest of the class is doing independent work. You can also do interviews if you have a team-teaching arrangement.

**Resource Type:** Assessments, Curricula and Instruction  
**Grade Level:** K, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5

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**AAAS Science Assessment: Weather and Climate I: Basic Elements**  
AAAS Science Assessment  
This assessment gives sub-ideas (core knowledge and information) on basic weather and climate elements including atmospheric temperature, humidity, and cloud formation. It also lists performance statistics on information given to students in grades 6-8 and 9-12, as well as common misconceptions on...

**Resource Type:** Assessments, Curricula and Instruction
Weather and Climate II: Seasonal Differences
American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS)
This is a list of key ideas related to Weather and Climate II: Seasonal Differences. For each key idea, you will find a list of sub-ideas, a list of items, results from our field testing, and a list of student misconceptions. Key ideas include: sun height (in the sky) during the year, temperature...

Resource Type: Assessments, Curricula and Instruction

AAAS Science Assessment: Weathering, Erosion, and Deposition
American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS)
This site contains information on key ideas of weathering, erosion, and deposition. It includes percentages of students (grades 6-8 and 9-12) answering tested knowledge correctly as well as common misconceptions those students might have. Key ideas include: transportation and deposition of rock...

Resource Type: Assessments, Curricula and Instruction