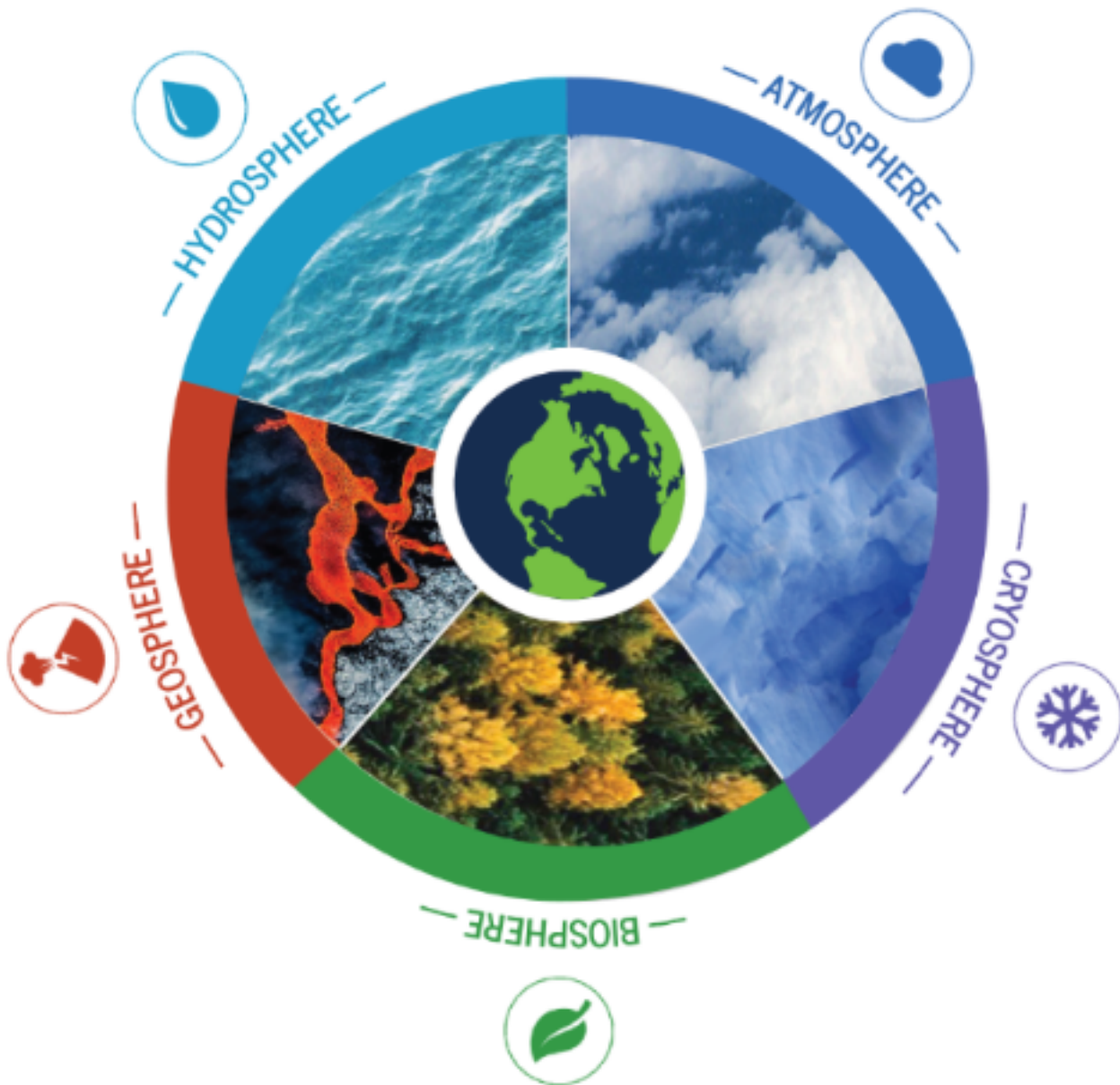
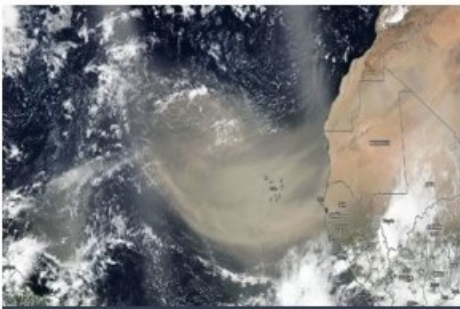
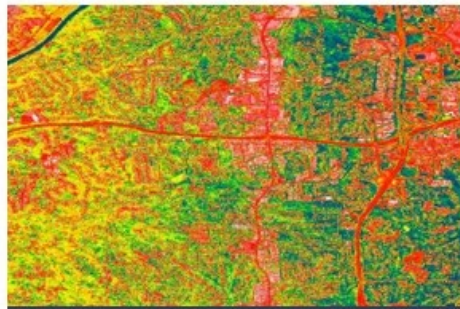

5E Earth System Story Map Collection: Lesson Plans

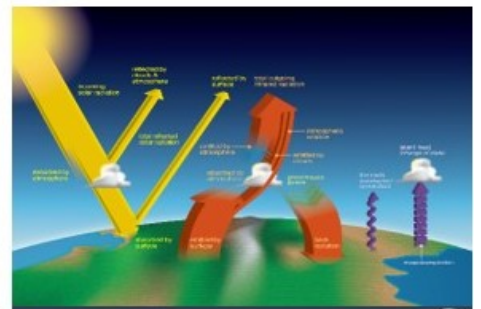




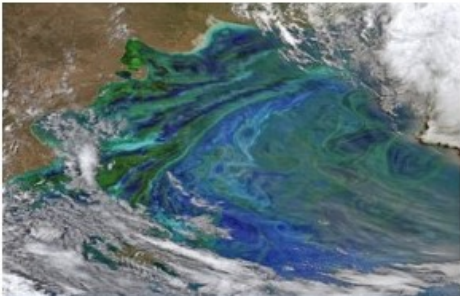
Air Quality



Creation of Urban Heat Islands



Earth's Energy Budget



Global Phytoplankton Distribution



Hurricanes as Heat Engines



Learning From Stars and Solar Eclipses



Ocean Circulation Patterns



Sea Ice Extent and the Earth System



Volcanic Eruptions



Are you looking for interactive lesson plans using visualizations and authentic data to address important processes and phenomena in the Earth System?

Check out these story maps. The My NASA Data story maps are an immersive means of storytelling that combine rich narrative text with interactive maps and NASA data, along with other multimedia content like images and videos. They are written using the 5E Model, and they address the Earth System phenomena that you teach.

See full descriptions below the table:



Atmosphere

- [Air Quality](#)
- [Creation of Urban Heat Islands](#)
- [Hurricanes as Heat Engines](#)



Biosphere

- [Global Phytoplankton Distribution](#)



Cryosphere

- [Sea Ice Extent and the Earth System](#)



Geosphere

- [Volcanic Eruptions](#)



Hydrosphere

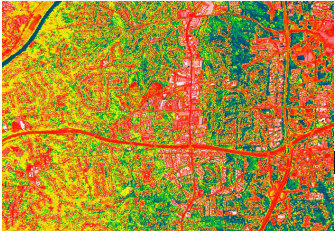
- [Ocean Circulation Patterns](#)

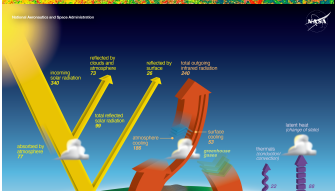


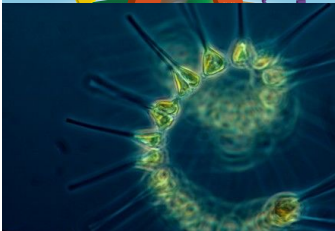
Earth as a System

- [Earth's Energy Budget](#)
- [Learning from Stars and Solar Eclipses](#)

Visit our Story Maps by clicking the links below:

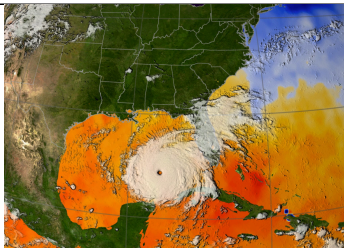
- 

1. In the [Air Quality Story Map](#) students analyze air quality index, and Nonattainment Area data to describe air quality trends over time. Students will use air quality data to make a prediction about the source of air pollution.
- 

2. The [Creation of the Urban Heat Island Story Map](#) engages students in understanding the *urban heat island effect* using land surface temperature and albedo data. Students also investigate the processes that create differences in surface temperature and how human activities have led to the creation of urban heat islands.
- 

3. In the [Earth's Energy Budget Story Map](#), students learn about the Earth's Energy Budget, where in the Earth System energy is absorbed, reflected, and emitted, and how features of the Earth such as clouds, aerosols, and greenhouse gases cause variations in the flow of energy into and out of Earth Systems.
- 

4. In the [Global Phytoplankton Distribution Story Map](#) students use chlorophyll concentration data to explore global distribution patterns of phytoplankton. Students also investigate the processes that allow phytoplankton populations to thrive, as well as how their role in the carbon cycle affects the other spheres of the Earth System.

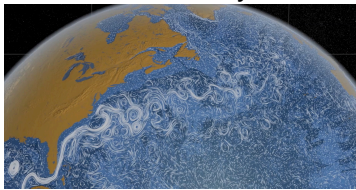


5. In the [*Hurricanes as Heat Engines Story Map*](#), students use various visualizations (i.e. images, charts, and graphs) to explore the energy exchange that occurs when hurricanes extract heat energy from the ocean. Using sea surface temperature data, they simulate the conditions that allow hurricanes to form, and observe the effects of hurricanes on the Earth System.

6. In the [*Learning from Stars and Solar Eclipses Story Map*](#), students explore how



living with a star can teach us about our universe. Through a series of learning activities, students examine the benefits and hazards of living with a star, describe and/or demonstrate how we use eclipses to study the Sun and its features, and investigate how our Sun may be used to learn about other stars and our universe.



7. In the [*Ocean Circulation Patterns Story Map*](#), students analyze ocean circulation patterns as they relate to the world's ocean garbage patches using NASA ocean currents data. Students investigate the forces that contribute to ocean circulation patterns, and how debris, especially plastics, travel from land to garbage patches, as well as how humans have contributed to ocean plastic pollution.



8. In the [*Sea Ice Extent and the Earth System Story Map*](#), students explore changes in sea ice extent as it relates to other spheres within the Earth System. They also develop an iterative concept map that they will use to document their understanding of the Earth System as it relates to changes in sea ice.



9. In the [*Volcanic Eruptions Story Map*](#), students explore the formation and impacts of ash and aerosols from volcanic eruptions around the world. They also investigate how ash and aerosols produced from volcanic eruptions are hazardous to the human ecosystem. Students graph the concentrations of aerosols from a volcanic eruption over time.

