

My NASA Data - GLOBE Connections

GLOBE Connections: Scale, Proportion and Quantity

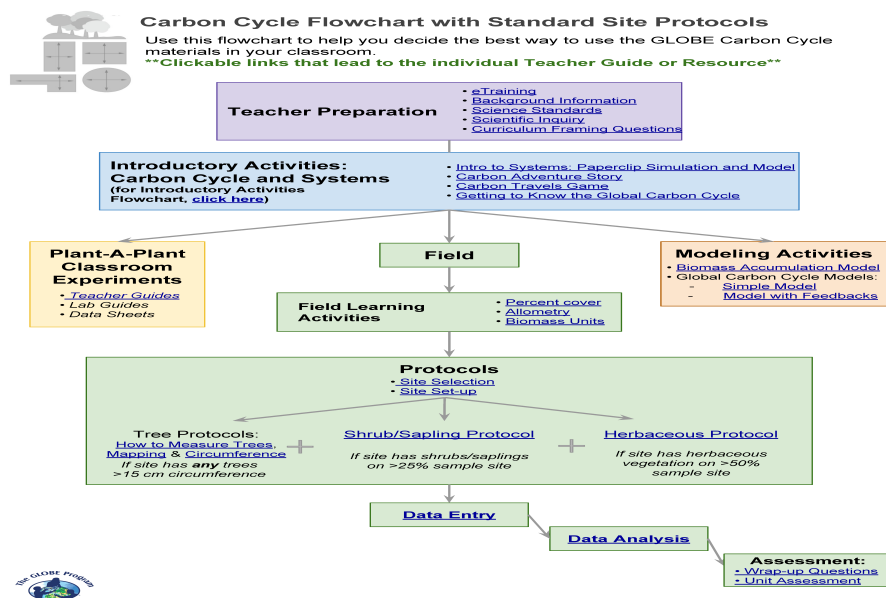
Scale, Proportion, and Quantity

GLOBE protocols help students to study and model phenomena that are too large or small to directly observe, such as change over time and space. Many GLOBE protocols can be used to study changes over time. These changes would include seasonal, as well as long term changes. In addition, data can be retrieved and examined on local, regional and global scales. A few of the protocols and learning activities that especially highlight these ideas are outlined on this page. For information on all GLOBE protocols, see the [Do GLOBE](#) page on the GLOBE website.

For more information on Scale, Proportion, and Quantity, visit the [My NASA Data page](#) dedicated to this cross-cutting concept.

Protocols

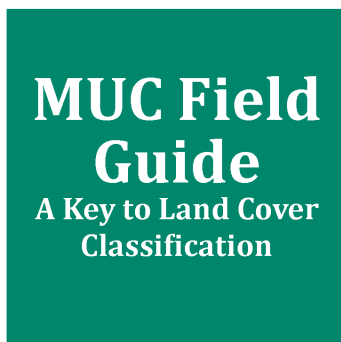
Carbon Cycle The Globe Carbon Cycle project is one of four Earth System Science Projects (ESSPs) funded by NASA and NSF to develop hands-on, intermediate, and secondary school-based science activities for the GLOBE Program.



Source: [GLOBE Biosphere](#)

GLOBE Carbon Cycle is focused on bringing the most cutting-edge research and research techniques in the field of terrestrial ecosystem carbon cycling into the classroom. It uses a systems-thinking approach to gain a foundation in the carbon cycle and its relation to climate and energy. The materials incorporate a diverse set of activities geared toward upper-middle and high school students. The protocols are found on the [GLOBE Biosphere Protocols Teacher's Guide page](#).

Land Cover Classification: Determine the major land cover type at a Land Cover Sample Site.



Source: ([GLOBE Website](#))

Learning Activities

[Biomass Units](#)

Overview: In this activity, students will calculate the biomass of their classroom using an estimate of the total dry mass of students in the class as well as the classroom area. Students calculate current carbon storage in the classroom. Students consider vegetation biomass across global biomes.

Student Outcomes:

- Determine the biomass of the classroom by calculating the total students' dry mass within the classroom area.
- Calculate differences in classroom biomass when the classroom area or students' dry mass changes.
- Investigate and discuss connections between basic biomass concepts (mass/ area) and the amount of biomass in natural systems (biomes).

[Global Connections \(GC2\) -Components of the Earth System Working Together:](#)

Overview: Students review a variety of images and maps of the whole Earth in order to identify the major components of the Earth system on a global scale. The maps show solar energy, average temperature, cloud cover, precipitation, soil moisture, and vegetation, and the images are of the Earth from space. As a class, they discuss some ways that the components of the Earth system interact to form the whole Earth system. They describe the water cycle at the global scale in greater detail, identify the components through which water passes and the processes that move it, and draw an

GC2: Components of the Earth System Working Together



Welcome

Introduction

Protocols

Learning Activities

Appendix

Purpose

To develop familiarity with interactions among the major components of the Earth system at the global scale

Overview

Students review a variety of images and maps of the whole Earth in order to identify the major components of the Earth system at the global scale. The maps show solar energy, average temperature, cloud cover, precipitation, soil moisture, and vegetation, and the images are of the Earth from space. As a class, they discuss some ways that the components of the Earth system interact to form the whole Earth system. They describe the water cycle at the global scale in greater detail, identify the components through which water passes and the processes that move it, and draw an abstract diagram.

Student Outcomes

Students will be able to:

- Use images and data about the whole Earth to identify the major components of the Earth system at the global scale and stimulate their thinking about connections among those components;
- Describe the pathway of water among the components, as an example of ways they are connected;
- Translate their understanding of that pathway into an abstract diagram.

Science Concepts

Physical Sciences

Heat is transferred by conduction, convection and radiation.
Heat moves from warmer to colder objects.

Sun is a major source of energy for changes on the Earth's surface.

Energy is conserved.

Chemical reactions take place in every part of the environment.

Earth and Space Sciences

Weather changes from day to day and over the seasons.

The sun is the major source of energy at Earth's surface.

Solar insolation drives atmospheric and ocean circulation

Each element moves among different reservoirs (biosphere, lithosphere, atmosphere, hydrosphere).

Life Sciences

Organisms can only survive in environments where their needs are met.

Earth has many different environments that support different combinations of organisms.

Organisms' functions relate to their environment.

Organisms change the environment in which they live.

Humans can change natural environments.

Plants and animals have life cycles.

Ecosystems demonstrate the complementary nature of structure and function.

All organisms must be able to obtain and use resources while living in a constantly changing environment.

All populations living together and the physical factors with which they interact constitute an ecosystem.

Populations of organisms can be categorized by the function they serve in the ecosystem.

Sunlight is the major source of energy for ecosystems.

abstract diagram.

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GC2: Components of Earth System Working Together - 1

Earth System Science

Student Outcomes:

- Use images and data about the whole Earth to identify the major components of the Earth system at the global scale and stimulate their thinking about connections among those components
- Describe the pathway of water among the components, as an example of ways they are connected
- Translate their understanding of that pathway into an abstract diagram

Determining Scale and Calculating Area

Overview: Students will determine a scale for the aerial photo or map they are using to investigate their carbon cycle sample site. The map scale is then used to calculate a given area, such as that of forest in the schoolyard. A vegetated area is required to make an estimate of the total above-ground carbon stock within the schoolyard or other desired location, which may be needed for a variety of research questions. Calculating area can be done using several methods; these range from a paper map and grid, as described here, to a more complex geographic information system (GIS) and image analysis techniques.

Student Outcomes:

- Use an aerial photo or map, a tape measure, and math to determine scale.
- Calculate the area of a real-world object using a map scale and a gridded overlay.
- Develop and implement a method to determine carbon stocks in the vegetated areas of the schoolyard or other desired location.

(Source: [GLOBE Determining Scale and Calculating Area](#))

Land Cover Change Detection



Overview: Using Multispec software, evaluate and investigate changes that have occurred in the major land cover types of your GLOBE Study Site by examining the digital files of two Landsat satellite images that were acquired a few years apart.



GLOBE Observer Land Cover

Image Credit: NASA

Student Outcomes:

- Earth has many different environments that support different combinations of organisms
- All organisms must be able to obtain and use resources while living in a constantly changing environment
- All populations living together and the physical factors with which they interact constitute an ecosystem
- Humans can change ecosystem balance
- How to use maps (real and imaginary)
- The characteristics and spatial distribution of ecosystems
- Use land cover data and appropriate tools and technology to interpret change
- Gather spatial data and historical data to determine the validity of change hypotheses

Odyssey of the Eyes

Beginning

Overview: Students explore the importance of perspective and are introduced to various scales of remotely-sensed data.

Odyssey of the Eyes Beginning Level



<p>Purpose To familiarize students with the importance of perspective and introduce students to various scales of remotely sensed data.</p> <p>Overview Students create a 3-D model of an area and develop a classification system for the landforms in their model. They use their eyes as remote sensors and view the model from a variety of heights and perspectives. Students then create maps of the objects they see. The maps can be used to answer certain questions about the environment.</p> <p>Student Outcomes <i>Science Content</i> <i>Physical Science</i> Symbols are alternative ways of representing data. <i>Science as Inquiry</i> Draw pictures that correctly portray at least some of the features of the thing being described. <i>Geography</i> Primary How to describe the student's own region from different perspectives. How to display spatial information on maps and other geographic representations. The spatial concepts of location, distance, direction, and scale. Middle Physical characteristics of places. How to make and use maps and to analyze spatial distributions and patterns. Enrichment A map is a symbolic representation of a certain area. Maps of the same area can be represented with different scales. Field of view is how large an area you can perceive. The field of view increases as the</p>	<p>distance from the ground or object increases. Remote sensing is collecting data about something from a distance.</p> <p>Scientific Inquiry Abilities Observe a landscape and design a model of it. Draw a landscape from various perspectives. Use different scales to view a group of objects.</p> <p>Level Primary</p> <p>Time Three to four class periods</p> <p>Materials and Tools Paper towel or toilet paper tubes A variety of materials (boxes, cardboard, paper, paint, glue, tape, etc.) to make the models. Ruler Writing materials <i>Odyssey of the Eyes Registration Form</i> <i>Odyssey of the Eyes Observations of the Model</i> <i>Odyssey of the Eyes Symbolic Map Data Sheet</i></p> <p>Preparation Gather all materials prior to the building of the model. Using a common road map, review the basic components of maps and models such as map keys and symbols.</p> <p>Prerequisites None Note: This activity presents concepts similar to those in <i>Relative and Absolute Directions Learning Activity</i> in the <i>GPS Investigation</i>.</p>
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GLEB® 2014 Odyssey of the Eyes, Beginning Learning Activity - 1 Biosphere

Welcome
Introduction
Protocols
Learning Activities
Appendix

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Source: ([GLOBE Website](#))

Student Outcomes:

- Symbols are alternative ways of representing data
- Draw pictures that correctly portray at least some of the features of the thing being described
- How to describe the student's own region from different perspectives
- How to display spatial information on maps and other geographic representations
- The spatial concepts of location, distance, direction, and scale
- Physical characteristics of places
- How to make and use maps and to analyze spatial distributions and patterns

Intermediate

Overview: Students explore the concept of modeling as it relates to remote sensing and to the process of digitizing images.

Odyssey of the Eyes Intermediate Level



<p>Purpose To familiarize students with the concept of modeling as it is related to remote sensing and to the process of digitizing images.</p> <p>Overview Students will use the symbolic map created in the beginning activity to produce a digitized image. As they perform the activity, they will begin to see why ground verification of satellite data is necessary in order for scientists to create accurate models of the Earth's systems.</p> <p>Student Outcomes <i>Science Content</i> <i>Science and Technology</i> Scientists rely on technology to enhance the gathering and manipulation of data. <i>Science as Inquiry</i> Communications involves coding and decoding. Tables, graphs and symbols are alternative ways of representing data. Use numerical data in describing and comparing objects and events. <i>Geography</i> Primary Maps and satellite-produced images. Middle Characteristics, functions, and applications of maps, globes, satellite images. Enrichment Objects in a remotely sensed image are interpreted and digitized into a code based upon the object's reflectance of bands of light. The image codes are relayed through a satellite dish to a computer for storage or enhancement.</p>	<p>Image display is accomplished by conversion of stored data to a user-defined color-coded image.</p> <p>Scientific Inquiry Abilities Observe, digitize and interpret an image.</p> <p>Level Middle</p> <p>Time Two to three class periods</p> <p>Materials and Tools Graph paper Pencils Maps and models from <i>Odyssey of the Eyes Beginning Level</i> Plastic overlay with <i>Odyssey of the Eyes Grid</i> Colored pencils <i>Odyssey of the Eyes Digitized Data Sheet</i></p> <p>Preparation Assemble the materials. Demonstrate the process of digitizing to the class before you have students work with partners.</p> <p>Prerequisites Students should know how satellites receive information and relay it to a computer. <i>Odyssey of the Eyes Beginning Level</i> is necessary for the completion of this activity. Note: This activity presents concepts similar to those in steps 8, 9, and 10 of the <i>Relative and Absolute Directions Learning Activity</i> in the <i>GPS Investigation</i>.</p>
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GLEB® 2014 Odyssey of the Eyes, Intermediate Learning Activity - 1 Biosphere

Welcome
Introduction
Protocols
Learning Activities
Appendix

?

Source: ([GLOBE Website](#))

Student Outcomes:

- Scientists rely on technology to enhance the gathering and manipulation of data
- Tables, graphs, and symbols are alternative ways of representing data
- Use numerical data in describing and comparing objects and events
- Maps and satellite-produced images
- Characteristics, functions, and applications of maps, globes, satellite images

Advanced

Overview: Students investigate the connection between remote-sensing technology, computer imagery, and land cover assessment as well as demonstrate how a satellite sensor relates information to a computer.

Odyssey of the Eyes Advanced Level



Purpose To help students understand the connection between remote sensing technology, computer imagery and land cover assessment and to demonstrate how a satellite sensor relates information to a computer.	Level All	Time Three to four class periods	Materials and Tools Graph paper Colored pencils Digitized map/image produced from Part 2 of <i>Odyssey of the Eyes</i> Intermediate Level Internet (optional)
Overview Students translate their maps into digital code and exchange the digitized versions of their maps with students in another school or classroom for translation into a color map. Each group of students recreates the original image's land cover types.	Science Content Science and Technology Clear communication is an essential part of doing science. Communications involves coding and decoding. Tables, graphs and symbols are alternative ways of representing data.	Preparation Assemble the materials. Contact another classroom or school to exchange digitized maps with.	Prerequisites The <i>Odyssey of the Eyes</i> Beginning and Intermediate levels are necessary to complete this activity. Note: This activity presents concepts similar to those in steps 9, 9, and 10 of the <i>Relative and Absolute Directions Learning Activity</i> in the <i>GPS Investigation</i> .
Student Outcomes Science and Technology Clear communication is an essential part of doing science. Communications involves coding and decoding. Tables, graphs and symbols are alternative ways of representing data.	Geography Primary Maps and satellite-produced images		
Enrichment Image display is accomplished by conversion of stored data to a user-defined color-coded image.	Scientific Inquiry Abilities Observe, interpret and classify an		

Welcome
Introduction
Protocols
Learning Activities
Appendix

GLOBE® 2014 Odyssey of the Eyes Advanced Learning Activity - 1 Biosphere

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GLOBE Observer Land Cover
Image Credit: NASA

Student Outcomes:

- Clear communication is an essential part of doing science
- Communications involve coding and decoding
- Tables, graphs, and symbols are alternative ways of representing data
- Maps and satellite-produced images
- Observe, interpret and classify an image using the data given
- Analyze how the image interpretation might differ between groups

