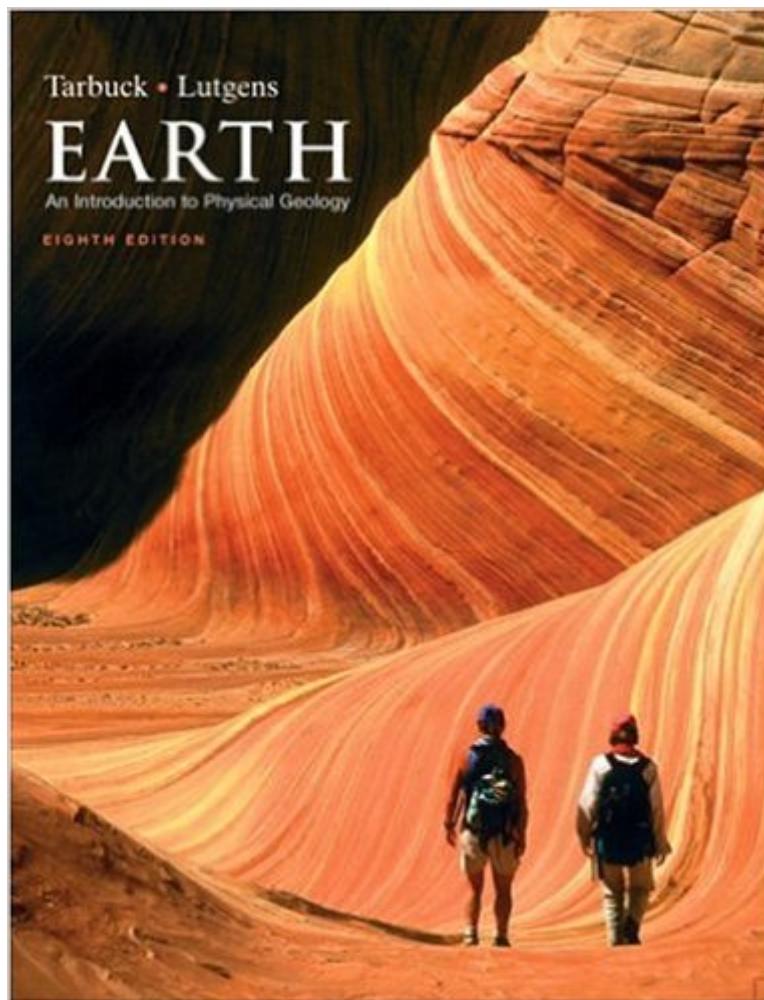


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# Earth: An Introduction To Physical Geology (8th Edition)



## Synopsis

To understand timely issues such as natural disasters and environmental challenges and to evaluate solutions to related problems the average citizen needs a basic awareness of the scientific principles that influence our planet. This trusted book makes an often-complex subject accessible to readers with a strong focus on readability and illustrations. Offers a meaningful, non-technical survey that is informative and up to date for learning basic principles and concepts. Includes a revised and expanded GEODE Earth CD-ROM. Updates and revises art and illustrations to include dozens of new high-quality, photographs carefully selected to aid understanding and add realism. Provides a wealth of new special-interest boxes, including "Earth as a System," "People and the Environment," and "Understanding Earth." A useful reference for anyone interested in learning more about Earth's geology.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

This text covers a lot of material, and manages to do so quite thoroughly and even fairly readably. It is a useful textbook for any "Intro to Geology" class, and would even be useful for someone interested in exploring the subject on their own, outside of a classroom.

This book has dozens of errors, but in its defense, I must say that every introductory textbook I've used or reviewed has similar errors. For example, thermal expansion due to daily temperature fluctuations does NOT fracture rocks. Fire fractures rocks, and local fires can occur in many deserts. The photo of a rock split is actually due to ice (not frost) wedging. Deserts can be freezing. The

book does not address the importance of past climates. Most of North America's landforms were formed under wet, warm climates, not today's. The hydrologic cycle should be expanded to the geohydrologic cycle, which incorporates plate tectonics. Plate tectonics, as presented, is rather primitive. We're in, I'd say, 3rd generation plate tectonics, but it is not being taught. Mountain glacial landscapes are entirely misinterpreted, based on a false paradigm originating in the 1840s. Yosemite Valley is far more a relict tropical landscape than a glaciated one, and Bridalveil Falls has existed for 10s of millions of years before glaciation. Evolution of desert landscapes is equally as bad. The authors don't understand pediments, which are exhumed weathering fronts (as in Joshua Tree National Park) or exhumed detachments (as in the Mojave Desert). Etc., etc.

This book is really great. It's pretty current with a lot of the geological events that have happened in the last few years. It has the earthquake in Japan listed, which I was not expecting. It's big and makes my backpack very heavy with needing to take my laptop to school as well. But that's just part of schooling I think. This one does NOT include the **MASTERINGGEOLOGY.COM** key, so if you NEED that for class it'll be an extra purchase. I believe I was able to purchase the key for an extra \$35 on the web-site. A lot of kids in my class bought the text in an online format and can only access it through their computer, they all told me it's a pain in the butt. So I think if you have the choice (and the money) to get the hard copy, that would be best.

This is a great introductory physical geology book, especially for entry level college geology courses. It starts off with the basic of rock properties and the earth, then moves into weathering and erosion, and from there into large scale physical processes, mountain building, plates, deserts, glaciers, volcanism, earthquakes, hurricanes etc... a good book, lots of pictures and very readable, generally good diagrams, though I wish the diagrams would be on the pages they were mentioned on, but I understand that you can only cram so much onto one page. That's about my only major complaint, it was a good book and I will be holding onto it in case I need to quickly reference something like Bowen's reaction series or need a refresher on terminology.

If your course requires for you to access [...] this book does NOT include the access card with code. If you require the online access with this book look for ISBN-10: 0321813936 | ISBN-13: 978-0321813930 | Edition: 11 Also, Student Prime is all but useless if you live in Alaska.

This is a great textbook for anyone who wants to learn more about Geology. It presents complex

ideas in an easy to understand format. I bought this for a college course two years ago and I liked it so much that I still have it.

I bought the physical textbook for my Geology 101 class. This book will teach you everything you need to know when beginning to learn about Geology. It is an interesting book with some fantastic images and displays. There is also an online code that comes with the new copies of the book. This is recommended if you are taking a Geology class, unless you would like to use it for your own learning process, then feel free. That code allows you to use the book's website to quiz yourself and learn more about Geology. You can also get the digital of this book as well, which allows you to highlight text and make notes and such. Very good buy for Geology learning students or just people who are interested in the knowledge of the Earth.

This book has tons of pictures and diagrams. (In a geology class, this is very helpful and I love pictures!) At the beginning of each chapter a "how this relates" story is about the best read in the book. Most of the chapters are reasonably dry but full of factual info. Geology majors will like it, all others may have some difficulty making it through a chapter.

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