



# BANGLADESH YOUTH ENVIRONMENTAL INITIATIVE

## Syllabus for NEO'20

- The syllabus for NEO'20 is based on the textbook “High School Earth Science” and “Meteorology Today” (by C. Ahrens). You can find the book “High School Earth Science” on [wikibooks.org](http://wikibooks.org), or [byei.org/neo](http://byei.org/neo).
- The syllabus may seem very big, but don't be scared! It will get easier as you study.
- Try to cover as many sections for the exam as possible.
- Read the **Lesson Summary** at the end of every section to get a basic idea of all concepts.
- Other books you can study are-
  - “Earth: Portrait of a Planet” by Stephen Marshak
  - “Understanding Earth” by John Grotzinger and Thomas H. Jordan

### High School Earth Science

#### Geosphere

#### **Chapter 2: Studying Earth's Surface**

##### **2.1 Introduction to Earth's**

**Surface** Direction

Topography

Landforms

Continents

Ocean Basins

##### **2.2 Modeling Earth's Surface**

Map Coordinates

Globe

##### **2.3 Topographic Maps**

What is a Topographic Map?

##### **2.4 Using Satellites**

Satellite Images

#### **Chapter 3: Earth's Minerals**

##### **3.1 What are Minerals?**

What are Minerals?

Groups of Minerals (common minerals with chemical formula)

##### **3.2 Identification of**

##### **Minerals**

All

##### **3.3 Formation of Minerals**

Formation from Magma and

Lava Formation from

Solutions Minerals from Salt

Water

#### **Chapter 4: Rocks**

##### **4.1 Types of Rocks**

The Rock Cycle

Three Main Categories of Rocks

Processes of the Rock Cycle

##### **4.3 Sedimentary Rocks**

Concept of Sediments

##### **4.4 Metamorphic Rocks**

Concept of Metamorphism

#### **Chapter 6: Plate Tectonics**

##### **6.1 Inside Earth**

Exploring Earth's Interior

Concept of Crust, Lithosphere, Mantle and Core

##### **6.2 Continental Drift**

The Continental Drift Idea

##### **6.3 Seafloor Spreading**

The Seafloor Spreading Hypothesis

##### **6.4 Theory of Plate Tectonics**

Earth's Tectonic Plates

How Plates Move

Plate Boundaries



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## **Chapter 7: Earthquakes**

### **7.1 Stress in the Earth's**

**Crust** Causes and Types of  
Stress Concept of Folds and  
Faults Stress and Mountain  
Building

### **7.2 Nature of Earthquakes**

Causes of Earthquakes  
Earthquake Zones  
Tsunami

### **7.3 Measuring and Predicting Earthquakes**

Basic idea of Magnitude and Intensity

### **7.4 Staying Safe in Earthquakes**

All

## **Chapter 8: Volcanoes**

### **8.1 Volcanic Activity**

All

### **8.2 Volcanic Eruptions**

Concept of Magma and Lava

### **8.4 Volcanic Landforms and Geothermal Activity**

Basic idea of geothermal activity

## **Chapter 9: Weathering and Formation of Soil**

### **9.1 Weathering**

What is Weathering?

### **9.2 Soils**

Formation

## **Chapter 10: Erosion and Deposition**

### **10.1 Water Erosion and Deposition**

Stream and River Erosion – Stages of  
Streams Stream and River Deposition

### **10.2 Wave Erosion and Deposition**

Basic Idea of Wave Erosion and  
Deposition Protecting Shorelines

### **10.4 Glacial Erosion and Deposition**

Basic idea of Glacial Erosion and  
Deposition

### **10.5 Erosion and Deposition by**

**Gravity** Contributing Factors

Landslide

Prevention and Awareness of

Landslide

## **Chapter 11: Evidence About Earth's Past**

### **11.1 Fossils**

How Fossils Form

What are index fossils?

Fossils Clues from Fossils

### **11.2 Relative Ages of Rocks**

Superposition of Rock Layers

Original Horizontality

Lateral Continuity

Superposition Cross-Cutting

Relationships

### **11.3 Absolute Ages of Rocks**

Age of Earth

Radioactive Decay

Carbon Dating

## **Chapter 12: Earth's History**

### **12.1 Geologic Time Scale**

Geologic Time

Geologic Time Scale

### **12.2 Early Earth**

All

### **12.3 History of Earth's Life Forms**

Earth's Diversity

Adaptations and Evolution



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## Hydrosphere

### **Chapter 13: Earth's Fresh Water**

**13.1** Full Section  
**13.2** **Surface water**  
Stream and river  
Floods  
**13.3** **Ground water**

### **Chapter 14: Earth's Oceans**

**14.1** Full; only a basic concept of water columns required.  
**14.2** Full; only a basic concept of surface and deep currents required.  
**14.3** Full; Features of sea floor **NOT** included.

### **Chapter 21: Human Actions and Earth's Waters**

Full Chapter; "California Water Resources" from Section 21.1 is **NOT** included.

## Atmosphere

### **Chapter 15: Earth's Atmosphere**

**15.1**  
Significance of the Atmosphere  
Composition of Air  
Pressure and Density  
**15.2 15.3 15.4**  
Only basic concepts of all sections

### **Chapter 16: Weather**

**16.1**  
Basic concepts of all  
**16.2**  
Basic  
**16.3**  
Thunderstorms, Tornadoes, Cyclones, Extreme Heat and Drought  
**16.4**  
Basic idea of barometer

### **Chapter 17: Climate**

**17.1**  
What is Climate?  
Latitude  
Altitude and Mountain Ranges  
**17.2**  
Very basic ideas  
**17.3**  
Short-Term Climate Oscillations (terms only) Causes of Climate Change  
Solar Variation  
Plate Tectonics  
Asteroid Impacts  
Rising Atmospheric Greenhouse Gases Global Warming

### **Chapter 22: Human Actions and the Atmosphere**

All



# BANGLADESH YOUTH ENVIRONMENTAL INITIATIVE

## **Planetary Science**

### **Chapter 23: Observing and Exploring Space**

#### **23.1 Telescopes**

- Electromagnetic Radiation
- The Speed of Light
- Light-Years
- Looking Back in Time
- The Electromagnetic Spectrum
- Keplers Law

- The Role of Gravity
- A Giant Nebula

#### **25.2 Inner Planets – Basics**

#### **25.3 Outer Planets – Basics**

#### **25.4 Other Objects in the Solar System**

- The Asteroid Belt
- Meteoroids
- Meteorites
- Comets
- Dwarf Planets

### **Chapter 24: Earth, Moon, and Sun**

#### **24.1 Planet Earth Full**

#### **24.2 Earth's Motions Full**

#### **24.3 Earth's Moon**

- How the Moon Formed
- Lunar Characteristics
- The Lunar Surface

#### **24.4 The Sun**

- The Sun's 'Atmosphere'

#### **24.5 The Sun and the Earth-Moon System**

- Earth's Seasons
- Solar Eclipses
- Lunar Eclipse
- The Phases of the Moon
- The Tides

### **Chapter 25: The Solar System**

#### **25.1 Introduction to the Solar System**

- Geocentric-Heliocentric
- Universe Table 25.1
- What Is (and Isn't) a Planet?
- The Size and Shape of Orbits



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## **Environmental Sciences**

### **Chapter 5: Earth's Energy**

- Energy Resources
- Types of Energy Resources
- Types of Renewable Resources
- Nonrenewable Energy Resources
- Formation of Fossil Fuels
- Coal, oil, Natural Gas
- Problems with Fossil Fuels
- Nuclear Energy
- Solar Energy
- Water Power
- Wind Power
- Biomass
- Geothermal Energy

### **Chapter 18: Ecosystems and Human Populations**

- Ecosystems
- Biological Communities
- Flow of Energy in Ecosystems
- Relationships Between Species
- The Carbon Cycle and the Nitrogen Cycle
- Short Term Cycling of Carbon
- Long Term carbon cycle
- Carbon Sinks and Carbon Sources
- Human Actions Impact the Carbon Cycle
- Why Do We Need to Know About the Carbon Cycle?
- The Nitrogen Cycle
- Human Populations
- Human Population Growth
- Humans and the Environment
- Sustainable Development

### **Chapter 19: Human Actions and the Land**

- Loss of Soils
- Causes of Soil Erosion
- Human-caused Erosion
- Preventing Soil Erosion

- Pollution of the Land
- What is Hazardous Waste?
- Impacts of Hazardous Waste

### **Chapter 20: Human Actions and Earth's Resources**

- Use and Conservation of Resources
- Renewable versus Non-Renewable Resources
- Common Materials We Use From the Earth
- Human Population and Resource Use
- Resource Availability
- Conserving Natural Resources
- Obtaining Energy
- Energy Efficiency

### **Chapter 21: Human Actions and Earth's Waters**

- Humans and the Water Supply
- Problems with Water Distribution
- Water Pollution
- Protecting the Water Supply

### **Chapter 22: Human Actions and the Atmosphere**

- Air Pollution
- Effects of Air Pollution
- Reducing

# **Meteorology Today (12<sup>th</sup> Edition)**

## **Chapter 1: Earth and Its Atmosphere**

- Composition of Today's Atmosphere
- Vertical Structure of the Atmosphere
- The Atmospheres of Other Planets
- Weather and Climate in Our Lives

## **Chapter 2: Energy**

- Energy, Temperature, and Heat
- Temperature Scales
- Specific Heat
- Latent Heat
- Heat Transfer in the Atmosphere:  
Conduction and Convection
- Radiation
- Global Warming and Enhancement of the  
Greenhouse Effect

## **Chapter 3: Seasonal and Daily Temperatures**

(Full Chapter including the Focus sections)

## **Chapter 4: Atmospheric Humidity**

- The Many Phases of Water
- Humidity
  - Absolute Humidity
  - Specific Humidity
  - Vapor Pressure
  - Relative Humidity
  - Dew Point
  - Measuring Humidity

## **Chapter 5: Condensation: Dew, Fog, and Clouds**

- Dew
- Fog (Radiation fog, advection fog, mixing fog)
- Haze
- Condensation Nuclei
- Clouds (Just the intro, no need to memorize the identification of different types of clouds)

## **Chapter 6: Stability and Cloud Development**

(Full Chapter including the Focus sections)

## **Chapter 7: Precipitation**

- Precipitation Processes
  - How Do Cloud Droplets Grow Larger?
  - Cloud Seeding and Precipitation
  - Precipitation in Clouds
- Precipitation Types
  - Rain
  - Snow
  - Sleet and Freezing Rain

## **Chapter 8: Air Pressure and Winds**

- Atmospheric Pressure:
  - Horizontal Pressure Variations
  - Daily Pressure Variations
  - Pressure Measurements
- Forces That Influence the Winds:
  - Pressure-Gradient Force
  - Coriolis Force
  - Geostrophic Winds
  - Surface Winds
- Winds and Vertical Air Motions

## **Chapter 13: Weather Forecasting**

- Weather Observations
- Weather Forecast Tools
- Weather Forecast Methods
- Using Forecasting Tools to Predict the Weather

## **Chapter 14: Thunderstorm**

- Thunderstorm Types
- Thunderstorm and Flooding
- Lightning and Thunder

## **Chapter 15: Tornadoes**

- Tornado Life Cycle
- Tornado Formation
  - Supercell Tornadoes
  - Nonsupercell Tornadoes
  - Waterspouts

## **Chapter 16: Hurricanes**

- Tropical Weather
- Hurricane Formation and Dissipation
- Hurricane Movement

## **Chapter 17: Global Climate**

- Climatic Classification
- Global Pattern of Climate
  - Tropical Moist Climates
  - Dry Climates
  - Moist Subtropical Mid-Latitude Climates
  - Moist Continental Climates
  - Highland Climates