



Understanding Earth



IN A NUTSHELL

VideoDiscovery
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Cost: \$595.00 (laserdisc & CD-ROM)

\$195.00 (CD-ROM)

SUBJECTS

Health

Language Arts

Mathematics

Science

Social Studies

This videodisc curriculum is composed of twelve lessons covering major issues of earth science and geology. Material is designed to be appropriate for classrooms, small groups, and individuals. It uses the “engage, explore, and apply” learning model. The presentation corresponds to the W. H. Freeman *Understanding Earth* textbook. Topics covered include earthquakes, floods, the structure of minerals, use of mineral resources, and understanding geologic time frames. Contains a teacher’s manual (with answer keys), a student manual, and videodisc directory. Each lesson contains an overview, learning objectives, a statement of concepts and themes, prerequisites, related lessons, teaching steps, assessment, extensions, resources, and student worksheets. Extensions listed in teacher’s manual suggest activities where students analyze real or simulated data.

Grade Level

9-12

Length

Videodisc

Date Published

1994

Note: Materials also available in CD-ROM version for the Macintosh.

THE BOTTOM
LINE

“Lots of content. Would be really useful if you had the equipment to run laserdiscs but didn’t have a library or many other materials.”

What the REVIEWERS Said !	Key Characteristics	Strengths Noted	Other Considerations
	Fairness and Accuracy	Lessons on floods and mining do address human impacts on earth, and raise questions (e.g., whether floodplain farmers should be compensated for losses due to flooding).	Human side of geological events (e.g., floods) not always addressed or given same quality of discussion.
	Depth	An in-depth and comprehensive treatment of earth science.	
	Emphasis on Skills Building	Fosters observation, reasoning, practice in lab tests. Comprehension skills are addressed and utilized throughout the assessments.	
	Action Orientation	Not Applicable.	
	Instructional Soundness	Excellent for visual learners. Learning can take place at student's own pace.	Visual only. Does not encourage tactile or other learning approaches.
	Usability	Material is long-lived. Very usable.	

“How are you supposed to learn about the hardness scale of minerals from pictures?”

“A helpful supplement to instruction and investigation.”