Table of Contents

Preface xvi

An Introduction to Geology 3

Geology: The Science of Earth 5 Physical and Historical Geology 5 Geology, People, and the Environment 5

World Population Passes

The Development of Geology 9

Catastrophism 9 The Birth of Modern Geology 9 Geology Today 9 The Magnitude of Geologic Time 10

The Nature of Scientific Inquiry 13

Hypothesis 13 Theory 14 Scientific Methods 14 Plate Tectonics and Scientific Inquiry 14

Earth's Spheres 15

Hydrosphere 16 Atmosphere 16 Biosphere 17 Geosphere 18

Earth as a System 19

Earth System Science 19 The Earth System 19

Early Evolution of Earth 21

Origin of Planet Earth 21

Solar System: Size and Scale 23

Formation of Earth's Layered Structure 24

Earth's Internal Structure 25

Earth's Crust 25 Earth's Mantle 26 Earth's Core 26

Rocks and the Rock Cycle 27

The Basic Cycle 27 Alternative Paths 28

The Face of Earth 30

Major Features of the Continents 32 Major Features of the Ocean Floor 33

Plate Tectonics: A Scientific Revolution

From Continental Drift to Plate Tectonics 43

Continental Drift: An Idea Before Its Time 44

Evidence: The Continental Jigsaw Puzzle 44 Evidence: Fossils Match Across the Seas 44 Evidence: Rock Types and Geologic Features 46 Evidence: Ancient Climates 46

The Great Debate 48

Unfolds 41

Rejection of the Drift Hypothesis 48



GEOGRAPHICS Pangaea 49

The Breakup of

The Theory of Plate Tectonics 50

Rigid Lithosphere Overlies Weak Asthenosphere 50 Earth's Major Plates 50 Plate Boundaries 51

Divergent Plate Boundaries and Seafloor Spreading 53

Oceanic Ridges and Seafloor Spreading 53 Continental Rifting 55

Convergent Plate Boundaries and Subduction 56

Oceanic-Continental Convergence 57 Oceanic-Oceanic Convergence 58 Continental-Continental Convergence 58

Transform Plate Boundaries 61

Testing the Plate Tectonics Model 63

Evidence: Ocean Drilling 63 Evidence: Mantle Plumes and Hot Spots 63 Evidence: Paleomagnetism 65

How Is Plate Motion Measured? 69

Geologic Evidence for Plate Motion 69 Measuring Plate Motion from Space 69 How Does Plate Motion Affect Plate Boundaries? 70

What Drives Plate Motions? 71

Forces That Drive Plate Motion 71 Models of Plate-Mantle Convection 72

Matter and Minerals 81

Minerals: Building Blocks of Rocks 83 Defining a Mineral 83 What Is a Rock? 84

Atoms: Building Blocks of Minerals 85

Properties of Protons, Neutrons, and Electrons 85

Elements: Defined by Their Number of Protons 85

Why Atoms Bond 87

The Octet Rule and Chemical Bonds 87 Ionic Bonds: Electrons Transferred 87 Covalent Bonds: Electron Sharing 87 Metallic Bonds: Electrons Free to Move 88 Hybrid Bonds 88

How Do Minerals Form? 89

Precipitation of Mineral Matter 89 Crystallization of Molten Rock 89 Deposition as a Result of Biological Processes 90

Physical Properties of Minerals 91

Optical Properties 91
Crystal Shape, or Habit 92
Mineral Strength 92
Density and Specific Gravity 94
Other Properties of Minerals 95

GEOGRAPHICS

Gold 96

Mineral Structures and Compositions 98

Mineral Structures 98 Compositional Variations in Minerals 99 Structural Variations in Minerals 100

How Minerals Are Classified 101

Classifying Minerals 101 Silicate Versus Nonsilicate Minerals 101

The Silicates 102

Silicate Structures 102 Joining Silicate Structures 103

Common Silicate Minerals 104

The Light Silicates 105
The Dark Silicates 106

Important Nonsilicate Minerals 108

GEOGRAPHICS

Gemstones 110

4

Magma, Igneous Rocks, and Intrusive Activity 117

Magma: Parent Material of Igneous Rock 119
The Nature of Magma 119

From Magma to Crystalline Rock 120 Igneous Processes 120

Igneous Compositions 122

Granitic (Felsic) versus Basaltic (Mafic) Compositions 122 Other Compositional Groups 123 Silica Content as an Indicator of Composition 123

Igneous Textures: What Can They Tell Us? 124
Types of Igneous Textures 125

GEOGRAPHICS

Granite: An Intrusive Igneous Rock 128

Naming Igneous Rocks 130

Granitic (Felsic) Igneous Rocks 131 Andesitic (Intermediate) Igneous Rocks 132 Basaltic (Mafic) Igneous Rocks 132 Pyroclastic Rocks 132

Origin of Magma 134

Generating Magma from Solid Rock 134

How Magmas Evolve 137

Bowen's Reaction Series and the Composition of Igneous Rocks 137

Magmatic Differentiation and Crystal Settling 138

Assimilation and Magma Mixing 138

Partial Melting and Magma Composition 140

Formation of Basaltic Magma 140 Formation of Andesitic and Granitic Magmas 140

Intrusive Igneous Activity 142

Nature of Intrusive Bodies: 143
Tabular Intrusive Bodies: Dikes and Sills 143
Massive Intrusive Bodies: Batholiths, Stocks, and Laccoliths 144

5

Volcanoes and Volcanic Hazards 153

The Nature of Volcanic Eruptions 155

Factors Affecting Viscosity 155

Quiescent versus Explosive Eruptions 156

GEOGRAPHICS

Eruption of Mount St. Helens 158



Materials Extruded During an Eruption 160

Lava Flows 160 Gases 161 Pyroclastic Materials 163

Anatomy of a Volcano 164

GEOGRAPHICS

Comparison of Three Types of Volcanic Cones 165

Shield Volcanoes 166

Mauna Loa: Earth's Largest Shield Volcano 166 Evolution of Volcanic Islands 167

GEOGRAPHICS

Kilauea's East Rift Zone Eruption 168

Cinder Cones 170

Parícutin: Life of a Garden-Variety Cinder Cone 171

Composite Volcanoes 172

Volcanic Hazards 173

Pyroclastic Flow: A Deadly Force of Nature 173

Lahars: Mudflows on Active and Inactive Cones 174

What Are Other Volcanic Hazards? 175

GEOGRAPHICS

Eruption of Mount Vesuvius, AD 79 177

Other Volcanic Landforms 178

Calderas 178

Fissure Eruptions and Large Igneous Provinces 181

Lava Domes 182

Volcanic Necks and Pipes 183

Plate Tectonics and Volcanic Activity 185

Volcanism at Convergent Plate Boundaries 185

Volcanism at Divergent Plate Boundaries 188 Intraplate Volcanism 188

Monitoring Volcanic Activity 190



Weathering and **Soil** 197

Weathering 199

Some Everyday Examples GEOGRAPHICS of Weathering 200

Mechanical Weathering 201

Frost Wedging 201 Salt Crystal Growth 202 Sheeting 202 Biological Activity 203

GEOGRAPHICS Mountain 204

The Old Man of the



Chemical Weathering 205

Dissolution 205 Oxidation 206 Hydrolysis 207

Spheroidal Weathering 209

Rates of Weathering 210

Rock Characteristics 210

Climate 210

Differential Weathering 210

GEUGRAPHICS

Acid Precipitation: A Human Impact on the Earth System 212

Soil 213

An Interface in the Earth System 213 What Is Soil? 213

Controls of Soil Formation 214

Parent Material 214

Time 214

Climate 215

Plants and Animals 215

Topography 216

The Soil Profile 217

Classifying Soils 219

The Impact of Human Activities on Soil 221

Clearing the Tropical Rain Forest—A Case Study of Human Impact on Soil 221

Soil Erosion: Losing a Vital Resource 222

The 1930s Dust Bowl: An Environmental Disaster 225

Sedimentary Rocks 231

The Importance of Sedimentary Rocks 233

Origins of Sedimentary Rock 234

Detrital Sedimentary Rocks 236

Shale 236

Sandstone 238

Conglomerate and Breccia 240

Chemical Sedimentary Rocks 241

Limestone 241

Dolostone 243 Chert 243 Evaporites 244



Limestone: An Important and Versatile Commodity 246

Coal: An Organic Sedimentary Rock 247

Coal: A Major Energy Source 249

Turning Sediment into Sedimentary Rock: Diagenesis and Lithification 250

Diagenesis 250

Lithification 250

Classification of Sedimentary Rocks 251

Sedimentary Rocks Represent Past

Environments 253

Types of Sedimentary Environments 253 Sedimentary Facies 257

Sedimentary Structures 258

The Carbon Cycle and Sedimentary Rocks 262





Metamorphism and Metamorphic Rocks 269

What Is Metamorphism? 271

What Drives Metamorphism? 273

Heat as a Metamorphic Agent 273 Confining Pressure 274 Differential Stress 274 Chemically Active Fluids 275 The Importance of Parent Rock 275

Metamorphic Textures 277

Foliation 277
Foliated Textures 278
Other Metamorphic Textures 279

Common Metamorphic Rocks 281

Foliated Rocks 281 Nonfoliated Rocks 282

GEOGRAPHICS

Marble 284

Metamorphic Environments 286

Contact or Thermal Metamorphism 286
Hydrothermal Metamorphism 287
Burial and Subduction Zone
Metamorphism 288
Regional Metamorphism 288
Other Metamorphic Environments 290



GEOGRAPHICS | Impact | Metamorphism 291

Metamorphic Zones 292

Textural Variations 292
Index Minerals and Metamorphic Grade 293

Interpreting Metamorphic Environments 295

Common Metamorphic Facies 295

Metamorphic Facies and Plate Tectonics 295

Mineral Stability and Metamorphic

Environments 296



Geologic Time 303

Creating a Time Scale—Relative Dating Principles 305

The Importance of a Time Scale 305
Numerical and Relative Dates 305
Principle of Superposition 306
Principle of Original Horizontality 307
Principle of Lateral Continuity 307
Principle of Cross-Cutting Relationships 308
Inclusions 308
Unconformities 309
Applying Relative Dating Principles 312



Dating the Lunar Surface 313

Fossils: Evidence of Past Life 314

Types of Fossils 314 Conditions Favoring Preservation 315





Correlation of Rock Layers 316

Correlation Within Limited Areas 317 Fossils and Correlation 317



How is Paleontology Different from Archaeology? 319

Dating with Radioactivity 320

Reviewing Basic Atomic Structure 320
Radioactivity 320
Half-Life 321
Using Various Isotopes 321
Dating with Carbon-14 323

The Geologic Time Scale 324

Structure of the Time Scale 325
Precambrian Time 325
Terminology and the Geologic Time Scale 325

GEOGRAPHICS

Did Humans and Dinosaurs Ever Coexist? 327

Determining Numerical Dates for Sedimentary Strata 328

Crustal Deformation 335

What Causes Rock to Deform? 337

Stress: The Force That Deforms Rocks 337 Strain: A Change in Shape Caused by Stress 338

How Do Rocks Deform? 339

Elastic, Brittle, and Ductile Deformation 339 Factors That Affect Rock Strength 340 Ductile Versus Brittle Deformation and the Resulting Rock Structures 340

Folds: Rock Structures Formed by Ductile **Deformation** 342

Anticlines and Synclines 342 Domes and Basins 344 Monoclines 345

Faults and Joints: Rock Structures Formed by **Brittle Deformation 347**

Dip-Slip Faults 347 Strike-Slip Faults 349 Oblique-Slip Faults 351 Joints 352

GEOGRAPHICS System 354

The San Andreas Fault

Mapping Geologic Structures 356 Strike and Dip 356

Earthquakes and Earthquake Hazards 361

What Is an Earthquake? 363

Discovering the Causes of Earthquakes 363 Aftershocks and Foreshocks 364

Faults and Earthquakes 366

Types of Faults 366 Fault Rupture and Propagation 367

Seismology: The Study of Earthquake Waves 368 Instruments That Record Earthquakes 368 Seismic Waves 368

Finding the Epicenter of an Earthquake 371

Determining the Size of Earthquakes 372

Intensity Scales 372 Magnitude Scales 373

Historic Earthquakes East of the Rockies 376



Earthquake Destruction 378

Destruction from Seismic Vibrations 378 Landslides and Ground Subsidence 380 Fire 380 What Is a Tsunami? 380

Earthquake Belts and Plate Boundaries 383

Can Earthquakes Be Predicted? 384

Short-Range Predictions 384 Long-Range Forecasts 385



Seismic Risks on the San Andreas Fault System 388

Earth's Interior 395

Earth's Internal Structure 397

Gravity and Layered Planets 397 Mineral Phase Changes 397

Probing Earth's Interior 399

"Seeing" Seismic Waves 399

Recreating the Deep

Earth's Layers 402

Earth's Crust 402 Earth's Mantle 403 Earth's Core 405

Earth's Temperature 407

How Did Earth Get So Hot? 407 Heat Flow 408 Earth's Temperature Profile 410

Earth's Three-Dimensional Structure 412

Earth's Gravity 412 Seismic Tomography 413 Earth's Magnetic Field 414

Divergent Boundaries: Origin and Evolution of the Ocean Floor 423

An Emerging Picture of the Ocean Floor 425

Mapping the Seafloor 425 Provinces of the Ocean Floor 428

Continental Margins 430

Passive Continental Margins 430 Active Continental Margins 431

Features of Deep-Ocean Basins 433

Deep-Ocean Trenches 433 Abyssal Plains 433 Volcanic Structures on the Ocean Floor 434

Anatomy of the Oceanic Ridge 436

Explaining Coral Atolls: EUGRAPHICS Darwin's Hypothesis 438

Oceanic Ridges and Seafloor Spreading 440

Seafloor Spreading 440 Why Are Oceanic Ridges Elevated? 440 Spreading Rates and Ridge Topography 440

The Nature of Oceanic Crust 442

How Does Oceanic Crust Form? 442 Interactions Between Seawater and Oceanic Crust 443

Deep-Sea Hydrothermal Vents 444

Continental Rifting: The Birth of a New Ocean Basin 446

Evolution of an Ocean Basin 446 Mechanisms for Continental Rifting 448

Destruction of Oceanic Lithosphere 451

Why Oceanic Lithosphere Subducts 451 Subducting Plates: The Demise of Ocean Basins 452

14

Convergent Boundaries: Origin of Mountains 459

Mountain Building 461

Convergence and Subducting Plates 463 Major Features of Subduction Zones 463 Extension and Back-Arc Spreading 464

Subduction and Mountain Building 465
Island Arc-Type Mountain Building 465
Andean-Type Mountain Building 465
Sierra Nevada, Coast Ranges, and Great
Valley 466

Collisional Mountain Belts 468

Cordilleran-Type Mountain Building 468
Alpine-Type Mountain Building: Continental
Collisions 469
The Himalayas 470



Fault-Block Mountains 475

The Basin and Range Province 475

What Causes Earth's Varied Topography? 477

The Principle of Isostasy 477

Mantle Convection: A Cause of Vertical

Crustal Movement 478

GEOGRAPHICS

The Laramide Rockies 480

15 Mass Wasting: The Work of Gravity 487

The Importance of Mass Wasting 489 Landslides as Geologic Hazards 489 The Role of Mass Wasting in Landform Development 489

Slopes Change Through Time 490

GEOGRAPHICS

Landslides as Natural Disasters 492

Controls and Triggers of Mass Wasting 493

The Role of Water 493
Oversteepened Slopes 494
Removal of Vegetation 494
Earthquakes as Triggers 496
Landslides Without Triggers? 497

Classification of Mass-Wasting Processes 498

Type of Material 498 Type of Motion 498 Rate of Movement 499

Rapid Forms of Mass Wasting 501

Slump 501 Rockslide 501 Debris Flow 502 Earthflow 504

Slow Movements 506

Creep 506
Solifluction 506
The Sensitive Permafrost Landscape 507

GEOGRAPHICS

Landslide Risks: United States and Worldwide 509

16 Running Water 515

Earth as a System: The Hydrologic Cycle 517

Running Water 519

Drainage Basins 519 River Systems 519

Streamflow 521

Factors Affecting Flow Velocity 521 Changes Downstream 522

GEOGRAPHICS

What Are the Largest Rivers? 525

The Work of Running Water 526

Stream Erosion 526
Transport of Sediment by Streams 526
Deposition of Sediment by Streams 529

Stream Channels 530

Bedrock Channels 530 Alluvial Channels 530

Shaping Stream Valleys 532

Base Level and Graded Streams 532
Valley Deepening 533
Valley Widening 534
Incised Meanders and Stream Terraces 534

Depositional Landforms 537

Deltas 537 The Mississippi River Delta 537 Natural Levees 539 Alluvial Fans 540

Drainage Patterns 541

Formation of a Water Gap 541 Headward Erosion and Stream Piracy 542

GEOGRAPHICS

Flash Floods 544

Floods and Flood Control 545

Types of Floods 545 Flood Recurrence Intervals 546 Flood Control 547

17 Groundwater 555

The Importance of Groundwater 557
Groundwater and the Hydrosphere 557
Geologic Importance of Groundwater 557



Our Water Supply 558

The Distribution of Groundwater 560

The Water Table 561

Variations in the Water Table 561 Interaction Between Groundwater and Streams 561

Factors Influencing the Storage and Movement of Groundwater 563

Porosity 563 Permeability, Aquitards, and Aquifers 563

How Groundwater Moves 565

A Simple Groundwater Flow System 565 Measuring Groundwater Movement 565 Different Scales of Movement 566

Wells 568

GEOGRAPHICS

Drought Impacts the Hydrologic System 570

Artesian Systems 571

Springs, Hot Springs, and Geysers 573

Springs 573 Hot Springs 573 Geysers 574

Environmental Problems 576

Mining Groundwater 576



Subsidence 576
Saltwater Contamination 577
Groundwater Contamination 578

The Geologic Work of Groundwater 582

Caverns 582 Karst Topography 583

18
Glaciers and
Glaciation 591

Glaciers: A Part of Two Basic Cycles 593

Valley (Alpine) Glaciers 593 Ice Sheets 594 Other Types of Glaciers 595

Formation and Movement of Glacial Ice 597

Glacial Ice Formation 597 Movement of a Glacier 597 Rates of Glacial Movement 598 Budget of a Glacier 599

GEOGRAPHICS

Antarctica Fact File 602

Glacial Erosion 604

Landforms Created by Glacial Erosion 607

Glaciated Valleys 608 Arêtes and Horns 609 Roches Moutonnées 609

Glacial Deposits 611

Glacial Till 611 Stratified Drift 612

Landforms Made of Till 613

Lateral and Medial Moraines 613 End and Ground Moraines 613 Drumlins 616

Landforms Made of Stratified Drift 617

Outwash Plains and Valley Trains 617 Ice-Contact Deposits 617

Other Effects of Ice Age Glaciers 618

Crustal Subsidence and Rebound 618 Sea-Level Changes 618 Changes to Rivers and Valleys 618 Ice Dams Create Proglacial Lakes 619 Pluvial Lakes 620



GEOGRAPHICS

Earth's Shrinking Glaciers 622

The Glacial Theory and the Ice Age 624

Causes of Ice Ages 626

Plate Tectonics 626 Variations in Earth's Orbit 626 Other Factors 628

19

Deserts and Winds 635

Distribution and Causes of Dry Lands 637

What Is Meant by *Dry*? 637 Subtropical Deserts and Steppes 638 Middle-Latitude Deserts and Steppes 638

Geologic Processes in Arid Climates 640

Weathering 640 The Role of Water 640

Basin and Range: The Evolution of a Desert Landscape 643

GEOGRAPHICS

Common Misconceptions About Deserts 646

Transportation of Sediment by Wind 648
Bed Load 648
Suspended Load 649

Wind Erosion 650

Deflation and Blowouts 650 Desert Pavement 650 Ventifacts and Yardangs 651

Wind Deposits 653

Sand Deposits 653
Types of Sand Dunes 654
Loess (Silt) Deposits 656

20 Shorelines 663

The Shoreline: A Dynamic Interface 665

The Coastal Zone 665 Basic Features 665 Beaches 667

GEOGRAPHICS

A Brief Tour of America's Coasts 668

Waves 670

Wave Characteristics 670 Circular Orbital Motion 670 Waves in the Surf Zone 671

The Work of Waves 673

Wave Erosion 673
Sand Movement on the Beach 673

Shoreline Features 677

Erosional Features 677 Depositional Features 677 The Evolving Shore 680

Stabilizing the Shore 681

Hard Stabilization 681 Alternatives to Hard Stabilization 682

Erosion Problems Along U.S. Coasts 685

Atlantic and Gulf Coasts 685 Pacific Coast 686

Hurricanes: The Ultimate Coastal Hazard 687

Profile of a Hurricane 687 Hurricane Destruction 688 Detecting and Tracking Hurricanes 690

Coastal Classification 692

Emergent Coasts 692 Submergent Coasts 692

GEOGRAPHICS

Hurricane Katrina from Space 693

Tides 694

Causes of Tides 694
Monthly Tidal Cycle 695
Tidal Patterns 695
Tidal Currents 695
Tides and Earth's Rotation 696

21Global Climate Change 703

Climate and Geology 705

The Climate System 705 Climate–Geology Connections 705

How Is Climate Change Detected? 707

Seafloor Sediment—A Storehouse of Climate Data 707

Oxygen Isotope Analysis 708 Climate Change Recorded in Glacial Ice 708

Tree Rings—Archives of Environmental History 709

Other Types of Proxy Data 709

Some Atmospheric Basics 711

Composition of the Atmosphere 711
Extent and Structure of the Atmosphere 712

Heating the Atmosphere 714

Energy from the Sun 714

The Paths of Incoming Solar Energy 714

Heating the Atmosphere: The Greenhouse
Effect 716



Natural Causes of Climate Change 717

Plate Movements and Orbital Variations 717 Volcanic Activity and Climate Change 717 Solar Variability and Climate 719

Human Impact on Global Climate 721

Rising CO_2 Levels 721 The Atmosphere's Response 722 The Role of Trace Gases 723

GEOGRAPHICS

Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Emissions 726

Climate-Feedback Mechanisms 728

Types of Feedback Mechanisms 728 Computer Models of Climate: Important Yet Imperfect Tools 728

How Aerosols Influence Climate 730

Some Possible Consequences of Global Warming 732

Sea-Level Rise 732
The Changing Arctic 733
Increasing Ocean Acidity 734
The Potential for "Surprises" 735

22 Tarible Fr

Earth's Evolution Through Geologic Time 741

Is Earth Unique? 743

The Right Planet 743
The Right Location 743
The Right Time 744
Viewing Earth's History 744

Birth of a Planet 746

From the Big Bang to Heavy Elements 746 From Planetesimals to Protoplanets 746 Earth's Early Evolution 746

Origin and Evolution of the Atmosphere and Oceans 749

Earth's Primitive Atmosphere 749 Oxygen in the Atmosphere 749 Evolution of the Oceans 750

Precambrian History: The Formation of Earth's Continents 751

Earth's First Continents 751

The Making of North America 753

Supercontinents of the Precambrian 753



Geologic History of the Phanerozoic: The Formation of Earth's Modern Continents 756

Paleozoic History 756 Mesozoic History 757 Cenozoic History 758

Earth's First Life 760

Origin of Life 760

Earth's First Life: Prokaryotes 760

Evolution of Life Through GEOGRAPHICS Geologic Time 762

Paleozoic Era: Life Explodes 763

Early Paleozoic Life-Forms 763 Vertebrates Move to Land 764 Reptiles: The First True Terrestrial Vertebrates 764

The Great Permian Extinction 766

Mesozoic Era: Age of the Dinosaurs 767

Gymnosperms: The Dominant Mesozoic Trees 767

Reptiles: Dominating the Land, Sea, and Sky 767

Cenozoic Era: Age of Mammals 769

From Reptiles to Mammals 769 Marsupial and Placental Mammals 769 Humans: Mammals with Large Brains and Bipedal Locomotion 770

Demise of the Dinosaur 772

23 **Energy and Mineral** Resources 779

Renewable and Nonrenewable Resources 781

Energy Resources: Traditional Fossil Fuels 782

Coal 782

Oil and Natural Gas 783

Oil Sands, Oil Shale, and Gas Hydrates 787

Oil Sands 787 Oil Shale 787

Gas Hydrates: A Fuel from Ocean-Floor Sediments 788

Nuclear Energy 789

Uranium 789

Obstacles to Development 789

Renewable Energy 791

Solar Energy 791 Wind Energy 792 Hydroelectric Power 794 Geothermal Energy 795

Biomass: Renewable Energy from Plants and Animals 796

Tidal Power 796

Mineral Resources 798

GEOGRAPHICS

Alberta's Oil Sands 800

Igneous and Metamorphic Processes 802

Magmatic Segregation 802 Diamonds 802 Hydrothermal Solutions 802 Metamorphic Processes 804

Mineral Resources Related to Surface Processes 805

Weathering and Ore Deposits 805 Placer Deposits 805

Nonmetallic Mineral Resources 807

Building Materials 807 Industrial Minerals 808

Touring Our Solar System 815

Our Solar System: An Overview 817

Nebular Theory: Formation of the Solar System 818 The Planets: Internal Structures and Atmospheres 819 Planetary Impacts 821

Earth's Moon: A Chip Off the Old Block 823

How Did the Moon Form? 823

Is Earth on a Collision Course? 826

Terrestrial Planets 828

Mercury: The Innermost Planet 828 Venus: The Veiled Planet 829 Mars: The Red Planet 830

GEOGRAPHICS

Mars Exploration 834

Jovian Planets 836

Jupiter: Lord of the Heavens 836 Saturn: The Elegant Planet 838 Uranus and Neptune: Twins 840

Small Solar System Bodies 843

Asteroids: Leftover Planetesimals 843 Comets: Dirty Snowballs 844 Meteoroids: Visitors to Earth 845 Dwarf Planets 847

Appendix A

Metric and English Units Compared 853

Glossary 855

Index 867

