

How to Teach the Earth System at School

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By the curriculum guidelines announced this year, it plays an important role to understand a scientific basic concept of the Energy, the Particle, the Life and the Earth, when we plan the conceptual structure of science curriculum according to the age at school. As the Earth consists of various phenomena which are connected each other closely, we have to teach not only what are phenomena but how connected. The concept of the earth system (Matsui, 2003) can help us to develop the earth science curriculum because it is considered one system in which factors like the air, the sea, the continental crust, the mantle and so on have mutual relations respectively. In earth science education, we have to teach the Earth as one system, and I propose to an example how to verify conceptual changes of students, how to develop curriculum and how to teach in classes at school.