

Drought in Georgia

Standards-Based Activities and
Background Information for
6th Grade Earth Science Teachers

Unit Understanding:

Drought and water use impact the
availability of water resources.

Lesson 1

What is Drought?

Perspectives and Definitions of Drought

Lesson Understanding:

Drought is a period of drier than
normal conditions that results in water-
related problems.

GPS Goals:

S6E3. Students will recognize the
significant role of water in earth processes.

Lesson 2

Who Shut Off My Water?

Cause and Effects of Drought

Lesson Understanding:

Water is not distributed evenly
throughout the world, and drought affects
parts of the world and the people in
those areas differently.

GPS Goals:

S6E3. Students will recognize the significant
role of water in earth processes.

S6CS5. Students will use the ideas of
system, model, change, and scale in
exploring scientific and technological matters.

S6CS6. Students will communicate scientific
ideas and activities clearly.

S6CS7. Students will question scientific
claims and arguments effectively.

S6CS9. Students will investigate the features
of the process of scientific inquiry.

S6CS10. Students will enhance reading in all
curriculum areas.

SS6G10. The student will discuss the impact
of government policies and individual
behaviors on the environments of Australia
and Oceania.

SS6G11. The student will explain the impact
of location, climate, physical characteristics,
natural resources and population size on
Australia and Oceania.

Lesson 3

Investigating Drought

Scientific Processes for Determining Drought

Lesson Understanding:

Scientists and other professionals
collect, analyze and communicate
information to determine drought
conditions.

GPS Goals:

S6E3. Students will recognize the significant
role of water in earth processes.

S6CS4. Students will use tools and
instruments for observing, measuring, and
manipulating equipment and materials in
scientific activities.

S6CS6. Students will communicate scientific
ideas and activities clearly.

S6CS9. Students will investigate the features
of the process of scientific inquiry.

Lesson 4

Understanding the Part We Play

Outdoor Water Use and Conservation

Lesson Understanding:

Water conservation reduces the
negative impacts of drought on
humans and the environment.

GPS Goals:

S6E3. Students will recognize the
significant role of water in earth processes.

S6CS2. Students will use standard safety
practices for all classroom laboratory and
field investigations.

S6CS3. Students will use computation and
estimation skills necessary for analyzing
data and following scientific explanations.

S6CS4. Students will use tools and
instruments for observing, measuring, and
manipulating equipment and materials in
scientific activities.

S6CS5. Students will use the ideas of
system, model, change, and scale in
exploring scientific and technological
matters.

ELA6W2. The student demonstrates
competence in a variety of genres.