| Lesson Number | Focus Question(s) | Main Learning Goal | Science Content Storyline |
|------------------|--|--|---|
| 1a | What does the surface of Earth look like? | Earth's surface has many different types of landforms. | The surface of Earth has many natural features called <i>landforms</i> . Landforms are different from the things people build on top of the land, such as houses, schools, buildings, and roads. They're also different from things that grow on the land, such as trees and plants. Landforms are made out of the land and include mountains, hills, plateaus, valleys, plains, and canyons. Bodies of water, such as lakes and rivers, are also considered landforms because they're natural features of Earth's surface. |
| 1b | How can we make models out of sand to show the shapes of different landforms? | Earth's surface has many different types of landforms. | The surface of Earth has many natural features called <i>landforms</i> . Landforms include mountains, hills, plateaus, valleys, plains, and canyons. Bodies of water, such as lakes and rivers, are also considered landforms because they're natural features of Earth's surface. We can make models out of sand to show the different shapes of these landforms. Some landforms rise high above Earth's surface, and others cut deep into Earth's surface. |
| 2a | How does the land on Earth's surface look different in different places? How can representations like maps help us find different landforms in the United States? | Landforms, including bodies of water, on Earth's surface look different in different places. Maps can help us find landforms in different places. | Landforms, including bodies of water, can differ from one place to another. In some places, landforms like mountains, hills, or plateaus rise high above Earth's surface, while in other places, valleys and canyons cut deep into the surface. Some places, like plains, are flat and change very little in elevation, and other places have bodies of water, such as rivers and lakes, that are part of the landscape. Relief maps show the elevations of different places in the United States. |
| 2b | How does the land on Earth's surface look different in different places? How can representations like relief maps help us compare different places in the United States? | Landforms, including bodies of water, on Earth's surface look different in different places. Relief maps can help us find landforms in different places and compare similarities and differences. | Landforms, including bodies of water, can differ from one place to another. In some places, landforms like mountains, hills, or plateaus rise high above Earth's surface, while in other places, valleys and canyons cut deep into the surface. Some place, like plains, are flat and change very little in elevation, and other places have bodies of water, such as rivers and lakes, that are part of the landscape. Relief maps show the elevations of landforms so we can identify the differences and similarities among them. |

Earth's Changing Surface: Scope and Sequence

| Lesson Number | Focus Question(s) | Main Learning Goal | Science Content Storyline |
|------------------|--|--|---|
| 3a | Do landforms ever change? What evidence do we have? | Landforms on Earth's surface change over time. Maps can help us identify and study these changes. | The land hasn't always looked the way it does today. Landforms on Earth's surface are changing all the time. Relief maps can help us identify and study landforms in different places. |
| 3b | Do landforms ever change? What evidence do we have? | Landforms on Earth's surface change over time. These changes can happen very slowly. | The land hasn't always looked the way it does today. Landforms are changing all the time. Relief maps can help us identify and study landforms in different places. Measurements can help us determine whether landforms change over time. |
| 4a/b | What causes landforms to change? What is our evidence? | Flowing water can change landforms over time. | Flowing water can change landforms over time by moving rock, soil, and sand from one place to another. |
| 5a | How quickly or slowly do landforms change over time? How do we know? | Earth's surface is always changing. Some changes happen very slowly over a long period of time. | The land hasn't always looked the way it does today. It's changing all the time. Some changes happen very slowly over a long period of time, such as the formation of a river delta or the erosion that carves out a canyon. |
| 5b | How quickly or slowly do landforms change over time? How do we know? | Earth's surface is always changing. Some changes happen very slowly over a long period of time, and other changes happen quickly. | The land hasn't always looked the way it does today. It's changing all the time. Some changes happen very slowly over a long period of time, such as the formation of a river delta or the erosion that carves out a canyon. Other changes happen quickly, such as the movement of rock during a landslide. |
| 6a | Can we explain how landforms change in our area? | The surface of Earth has many types of landforms, including bodies of water, that are always changing. Sometimes changes happen quickly, and sometimes they happen slowly. Flowing water is one process that can change landforms quickly or slowly over time. | The surface of Earth has many types of landforms, including bodies of water, that are always changing. Sometimes they change quickly, and sometimes they change very slowly. Flowing water is one process that can change landforms quickly or slowly over time. |
| 6b | Can we predict and explain how landforms might be changing in our area? | | |