

MAGNIFICENT MAGNETOSPHERES

Lesson Summary:

Students draw diagrams that compare and contrast the magnetospheres surrounding Earth and the sun.

Objectives:

The student will:

- develop a conceptual framework for Earth's magnetosphere and understand that its shape is affected by the solar wind;
- identify the sun has a magnetosphere that also is affected by solar wind; and
- compare the shapes of the sun's and Earth's magnetospheres and learn the reasons for their differences.

GLEs Addressed:

Science

[5-8] SA1.1 The student demonstrates an understanding of the processes of science by asking questions, predicting, observing, describing, measuring, classifying, making generalizations, inferring, and communicating.

[11] SD3.2 The student demonstrates an understanding of cycles influenced by energy from the sun and by Earth's position and motion in our solar system by exploring causes and effects related to phenomena (e.g., the aurora, solar winds, Coriolis Effect).

Search Terms:

- magnetosphere
- solar wind
- Earth
- Earth's magnetic field
- magnetotail