



Educational Topic

Geologist

Related Job Titles:

Geologist, Geological Scientist, Geoscientist, Earth Scientist

Job Description:

Geologists, Geophysicists, and Geochemists explore the Earth's evolution, its structures, the way it works, and the way its resources are used. They also examine interactions with chemical (air and water) and biological (plant and animal) factors. Geologists find minerals, water, and oil resources and help companies use them. Their work improves understanding of hazards like earthquakes and avalanches. They help explain the Ice Ages and discover the truth about dinosaurs. They also play an important role in managing and conserving the environment.

Interests / Abilities:

- Do you enjoy the open air and four-wheel drive travel?
- Would you like to visit countries around the world?
- Do you like camping?
- Are you interested in volcanoes?
- Do find it fun to play with maps and various devices?
- Do you like to hit rocks so hard they break?
- Would you like to meet to people from all over the world?
- Do you enjoy solving mysteries?
- Do you think fossils are cool?
- Do you like to collect rocks?

Education / Training Needed:

Geologists, begin their careers with a bachelor's degree in geology, geochemistry, geophysics or a related science. A strong background in math, science and geography is necessary. You may need a master's or Ph.D. for advanced geology. Project managers and consultants may also be expected to have further education, and possibly, business administration courses. Part-time field work may be available after the first year of college. The experience in the field is invaluable to your studies and to your later career.

Suggested School Subjects / Courses:

- Science (biology, chemistry, physics, astronomy, planetary science with laboratory research, and fieldwork)
- Math
- Geography

Another course that can help greatly is English, for the many reports, meetings, and presentations. As in other sciences, a second language is very valuable because Geologists do a great deal of traveling. Computer skills are definitely a bonus.

Areas of expertise:

- *Hydrogeology*: study the movement, quality and quantity of water in soils and rocks
- *Environmental Geology*: study the interaction between ground, water, atmosphere, biology, and human activities
- *Soil Sciences*: connected with geology since soils represent the uppermost layer of the ground
- *Petroleum Geology*: study rock layers and ways to locate oil
- *Economic Geology*: study of mineral deposits, new resource exploration, and environmentally-safe disposal of mining waste

