

THE SCIENCE TEACHER

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Earth and space science are often the forgotten discipline in high school. This is a shame. The study of our home planet and its place in the universe has provided inspiration for countless scientists and amateur naturalists. Closer to home, deep knowledge of the Earth is essential to meeting the environmental challenges of the 21st century. Students must comprehend the dynamic Earth system if they are to responsibly address such critical issues as global climate change. Emerging technologies — many of them spin-offs of the space program — offer powerful new tools for students to analyze a wide range of planetary data and create their own inquiry-based investigations. The articles in this issue offer a taste of the vast range of study that awaits.

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