

# California's Environmental Principles and Concepts

The environmental principles examine the interactions and interdependence of human societies and natural systems. Grade K-12

Principal	Lesson(s) in which standard is taught or reinforced	Description Standard
Principal I	1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9	<p><b>People Depend On Natural Systems</b></p> <p><b>Concept a.</b> know that the goods produced by natural systems are essential to human life and to the functioning of our economies and cultures.</p> <p><b>Concept b.</b> know that the ecosystem services provided by natural systems are essential to human life and to the functioning of our economies and cultures.</p> <p><b>Concept c.</b> know that the quality, quantity and reliability of the goods and ecosystem services provided by natural systems are directly affected by the health of those systems.</p>
Principal II	1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9	<p><b>People Influence Natural Systems</b></p> <p><b>Concept a.</b> know that direct and indirect changes to natural systems due to the growth of human populations and their consumption rates influence the geographic extent, composition, biological diversity, and viability of natural systems.</p> <p><b>Concept b.</b> know that methods used to extract, harvest, transport and consume natural resources influence the geographic extent, composition, biological diversity, and viability of natural systems.</p> <p><b>Concept c.</b> know that the expansion and operation of human communities influence the geographic extent, composition, biological diversity, and viability of natural systems.</p> <p><b>Concept d.</b> know that the legal, economic and political systems that govern the use and management of natural systems directly influence the geographic extent, composition, biological diversity, and viability of natural systems.</p>
Principal III	1,5,6,8,9	<p><b>Natural Systems Change In Ways That People Benefit From And Can Influence</b></p> <p><b>Concept a.</b> know that natural systems proceed through cycles and processes that are required for their functioning.</p> <p><b>Concept b.</b> know that human practices depend upon and benefit from the cycles and processes that operate within natural systems.</p> <p><b>Concept c.</b> know that human practices can alter the cycles and processes that operate within natural systems.</p>
Principal IV	1,5,6,8,9	<p><b>There Are No Permanent Or Impermeable Boundaries That Prevent Matter From Flowing Between Systems</b></p> <p><b>Concept a.</b> know that the effects of human activities on natural systems are directly related to the quantities of resources consumed and to the quantity and characteristics of the resulting byproducts.</p> <p><b>Concept b.</b> know that the byproducts of human activity are not readily prevented from entering natural systems and may be beneficial, neutral, or detrimental in their effect.</p>
Principal V	4,5,8,9	<p><b>Decisions Affecting Resources And Natural Systems Are Complex And Involve Many Factors</b></p> <p><b>Concept a.</b> know the spectrum of what is considered in making decisions about resources and natural systems and how those factors influence decisions.</p>

For more information, contact The Forest Foundation

Toll Free 1-866-241-TREE [www.calforestfoudation.org](http://www.calforestfoudation.org) 853 Lincoln Way, Suite 104 Auburn, CA 95603