

Science, Technology, Society, and the Environment

Chapter Preview

Science influences our daily lives far more than most of us realize. Do you use scientific knowledge every day? How many technological devices do you use in an average day? Our everyday lives are filled with examples of science and technology. In fact, many aspects of our lives are determined or controlled by technology.

Science and technology can be found everywhere—in a satellite orbiting Earth, in a beam of sunlight, in your cell phone, in the equipment you use in the science laboratory, in your resemblance to your parents, and even in today's weather!

The topics studied in this text will help you recognize examples of science and technology, and understand how they influence your everyday life.

KEY IDEAS

Science and technology are different, but related, fields and are often interdependent.

Scientific discoveries and technological developments affect society, and society influences the direction of scientific and technological research.

Science and technology have both positive and negative effects on the natural environment.

TRY THIS: What in the World Isn't Science?

Skills Focus: analyzing, communicating

Think about all of the objects, events, and phenomena that you have encountered since you woke up this morning.

1. In a small group discussion, identify an everyday object, event, or phenomenon that you believe is not connected to science. As ideas are presented by your group members, challenge yourself to identify a science connection. If a science connection cannot be made, a point is awarded to your group. Follow the time limit set by your teacher.

- A. List the objects, events, or phenomena that your group agreed did not have a science connection.
- B. Did most objects, events, or phenomena suggested by your group have a science connection? Explain.
- C. Write a short paragraph describing the influence of science on your everyday life.