

BOOKS AND BEYOND—RESOURCES FOR KNOWLEDGE

Geology is a relatively recent scientific discipline. New data is discovered almost daily and new interpretations of data are continually being made. When reading about the geology of an area, it's worthwhile to note the date of the publication because there is always a possibility that new interpretations are available.

That said, there is an abundance of literature, texts, websites, DVDs, and other material that can help you understand and enjoy the geology of our planet and of the land you stand upon. Unless noted as "technical" or "highly technical", our suggestions are easily read and comprehended by any curious reader.

Geology has its own specialized vocabulary. Most books will include a glossary of terms that will help you navigate the text. The internet is replete with websites for geology terminology. Don't let scientific jargon deter you!! A basic vocabulary is easily acquired and is all you need to enjoy the wonderful world of geology.

Contributed by: Leslie Aickin (2012)

Basic Geology

Essentials of Geology, Ninth Edition; by Frederick K. Lutgens and Edward J. Tarbuck; Pearson/Prentice Hall, 2006. Used as a textbook, this is an outstanding educational about geology. Very readable, and takes you step-by-step into the subject. Earlier editions would also be well worth it.

Reading the Rocks—The Autobiography of the Earth; by Marcia Bjornerud; Westview Press, 2006. A primer to understanding many basic geology concepts with a multitude of on-the-ground examples of the these concepts.

Reading the Earth—Landforms in the Making; by Jerome Wyckoff; Adastra West, 1999. Outstanding guide to noticing the landforms all around you and understanding how they formed and the continual dance of change for all landforms.

How the Earth Works; taught by Professor Michael E. Wysession; DVD set by The Teaching Company, 2008. Includes a written guide to all of the material presented. It doesn't get much better than this. The Teaching Company regularly has sales that make their DVD sets quite affordable.

The Nature of Earth: An Introduction to Geology; taught by Professor John J. Renton; DVD set by The Teaching Company, 2006. Includes a written guide to all of the material presented. An outstanding educational about geology and its processes. The Teaching Company regularly has sales that make their DVD sets quite affordable.

Our Regional Geology

The Restless Northwest—a Geological Story; by Hill Williams; Washington State University Press, 2002. A 154 page overview of the complex terrain of the Northwest.

Northwest Exposures—A Geologic Story of the Northwest; by David Alt and Donald W. Hyndman; Mountain Press Publishing Company, 1995. Extensive look at the geology of Montana and Idaho, with some sections for Oregon and eastern Washington. Less information about western Washington.

Fire & Ice—The Cascade Volcanoes (Revised Edition); by Stephen L. Harris; The Mountaineers-Pacific Search Press, 1980. A look at the origins of each of the major mountains of the Cascade Range.

On the Trail of the Ice Age Floods—a geological field guide to the Mid-Columbian Basin; by Bruce Bjornstad; Keokee Books, 2006. A definitive guide to the formation of Glacial Lake Missoula, the ruptures of the ice dam and subsequent formation of the eastern Washington scablands and features downstream of the floods. Includes excellent road and airplane routes to view the features.

Fire, Faults, and Floods—A Road and Trail Guide Exploring the Origins of the Columbia River Basin; by Marge and Ted Mueller; University of Idaho Press, 1997. An excellent guide for fascinating road trips, with lots of information about the Columbia River Basalts.

Geology of Olympic National Park; by Rowland W. Tabor; Northwest Interpretive Association, 1987. The basics of the geology of the Olympics and a road-and-trail guide to locate and enjoy the geology of Olympic National Park.

Hiking Washington's Geology; by Scott Babcock and Bob Carson; The Mountaineers, 2000. Road and trail trips all over the state. A fabulous resource around which a lifetime of adventures can be designed.