

CHAPTER OVERVIEW

8: The Five Environmental Spheres and Biogeochemical Cycle

“In addition to water, air, solid earth, and life, a fifth sphere of the environment must be considered, the anthrosphere consisting of the things made and used by humans. The anthrosphere has such a profound influence that we are now entering a new epoch, the anthropocene in which Earth’s environment will be largely determined by human activities.

[8.1: Five Environmental Spheres](#)

[8.2: The Hydrosphere](#)

[8.3: The Atmosphere](#)

[8.4: The Geosphere](#)

[8.5: The Biosphere](#)

[8.6: The Anthrosphere](#)

[8.7: Cycles of Matter](#)

[Questions and Problems](#)

[Supplementary References](#)

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