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Mr. Schmidt Science 8

Glencoe Earth Science Chapter 10 Vocabulary

aquiclude aquifer geyser hot spring infiltration permeability

spring water table zone of aeration zone of saturation cave

Karst topography sinkhole stalactite stalagmite artesian well drawdown

recharge well

1. Hot spring – thermal spring with temperatures higher than the human body.
2. Geyser – explosive hot spring that erupts regularly.
3. Infiltration – process by which precipitation that has fallen on land surfaces enters the ground and becomes groundwater.
4. Stalactite – cone-shaped or cylindrical dripstone deposit of calcium carbonate that hangs like an icicle from the ceiling.
5. Spring – natural discharge of groundwater at Earth’s surface where an aquifer and an aquiclude come in contact.
6. Aquiculde – impermeable layer that is a barrier to groundwater, such as silt, clay, or shale.
7. Artesian well – fountain of water that spurts above the land surface when a well taps a deep, confined aquifer containing water under pressure.
8. Aquifer – permeable underground layer through which groundwater flows relatively easily.
9. Recharge – process by which water from precipitation and runoff is added to the zone of saturation.
10. Karst topography – irregular topography with sinkholes, sinks, and sinking streams caused by groundwater dissolution of limestone.
11. Drawdown – difference between the water level in a pumped well and the original water-table level.
12. Stalagmite – mound-shaped dripstone deposit of calcium carbonate that forms on a cave’s floor beneath a stalactite.
13. Water table – upper boundary of the zone of saturation that rises during wet seasons and drops during dry periods.
14. Zone of saturation – region below Earth’s surface where all the pores of a material are completely filled with groundwater.
15. Well – deep hole drilled or dug into the ground to reach a reservoir of groundwater.
16. Sinkhole – depression in Earth’s surface formed when a cave collapses or bedrock is dissolved by acidic rain or moist soil.
17. Zone of aeration – region above the water table where materials are moist, but pores contain mostly air.
18. Cave – a natural underground opening connected to Earth’s surface, usually formed when groundwater dissolves limestone.
19. Permeability – ability of a material to let water pass through, is high in material with large, well-connected pores and low in material with few pores or small pores.