



STEM Careers

Geophysicist / Seismologist

Job Description: Study the physical features of a planet, including its gravity, magnetic field, earthquakes, and internal heat and energy.

What does a Geophysicist or Seismologist do?

- Locate the safest place to build a new bridge in an area prone to earthquakes.
- Discover new ways to extract oil from rocks.
- Predict the next volcanic eruption, giving people who are in its path time to evacuate.
- Find an underground water reserve that can be used to produce geothermal energy.
- Investigate the composition, structure, and history of Earth's crust through the collection, examination, measurement, and classification of soils, minerals, rocks, or fossil remains.
- Evaluate earthquake hazards and locate possible faults.
- Prepare geological maps, charts and reports concerning mineral extraction, land use, and resource management.

Your Interests:

- Do you like to collect rocks?
- Are you interested in earthquakes?
- Are you interested in what goes on inside the Earth?
- Do you like to travel?
- Do you enjoy solving mysteries?

Outlook:

Average Salary - \$39.05 hourly, \$81,220 annual
Projected Job Openings - 15,400 over the next 10 years

Education/Program of Study:

- Bachelor's Degree for some entry-level positions
- Master's Degree in Geology or Earth Science preferred
- Ph.D. is necessary for most high-level research and college teaching positions

Sources:

O*NET Online

http://www.sciencebuddies.org/science-fair-projects/science-engineering-careers/Geo_geoscientist_c001.shtml?From=testb

http://quest.arc.nasa.gov/people/cfs/generic/geophysicist_153.pdf