Science

Georgia Habitats- There are 5 habitats in Georgia. The Mountains, Piedmont, Coastal Plains, O’Keefenokee Swamp/Marsh, and Barrier Islands (St. Simmons area). Children should also know about the different animals that live in the habitats and that animals adapt to change to their environment.

Pollution-Children should know about recycling, conservation, and how pollution effects the plants and animals living in a habitat. (The Lorax is a nice story that helps with this concept.) Pollution can harm the air, water, land, and there is even noise pollution.

Soils- There are five different types of soil. Humus-made of broken down pieces of dead plants and animals. Sand- soil with grains that are large enough to be seen. Silt- soil with grains that are too small to be seen with your eyes alone. Clay- soil with very tiny grains of rock. Loam- soil that is a mixture of humus, silt, sand, and clay. Loam is a great soil for growing plants and vegetables.

Rocks/Minerals- Rocks are minerals but minerals are never rocks. Minerals are naturally formed solids found in nature. There are three kinds of rock (metamorphic, igneous, and sedimentary). Rocks go through the rock cycle. ([www.studyjams.com-](http://www.studyjams.com-) rock cycle) Geologists study rocks/minerals and use the Mohs scale to measure hardness.

Fossils- Fossils are the remains of once living things. There are trace fossils (marks left in mud that hardened). Petrified Wood-soft particles of wood that have been replaced by minerals. Cast- forms when mud or minerals fill a mold (similar to a cupcake). Mold- the shape of a once living thing and leaves a cavity (similar to a cupcake pan). Amber- an insect that got stuck in sap that hardened.

Magnets- Magnets have a north and south pole. Opposite poles attract, and like poles repel. Items are magnetic if they contain iron because magnets are attracted to iron. An electromagnet can be turned on and off using electricity, and a generator is a device that uses magnets to produce electricity.

Heat- Temperature is the measure of how hot or cold something is. Scientists use the Celsius scale and we in America use the Fahrenheit scale. The movement of thermal energy is called heat. An insulator doesn’t conduct heat well, and slows down the movement of heat. Conduction is the movement of heat b/t objects. Aluminum and copper are good conductors. Friction forms heat when objects are rubbed together.