



Physical Science, 12th edition

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A STUDENT-FOCUSED REVISION

For the twelfth edition, real student data points and input, derived from thousands of our LearnSmart users, were used to guide the revision. LearnSmart Heat Maps provided a quick visual snapshot of usage of portions of the text and the relative difficulty students experienced in mastering the content. With this data, the text content was honed:

- If the data indicated that the subject covered was more difficult than other parts of the book, as evidenced by a high proportion of students responding incorrectly to LearnSmart probes, the text content was substantively revised or reorganized to be as clear and illustrative as possible.
- When the data showed that a smaller percentage of the students had difficulty learning the material, the text was revised to provide a clearer presentation by rewriting the section or providing additional example problems to strengthen student problem-solving skills.

This process was used to direct the revision of this new edition, along with other instructor and student feedback. The following “New to This Edition” summary lists the more major additions and refinements.

NEW TO THIS EDITION

Numerous revisions have been made to the text to update the content on current events and to make the text even more user-friendly and relevant for students.

The list below provides chapter-specific updates:

- Throughout the text, issues and illustrations surrounding science, technology and society have been significantly updated, replacing descriptions of out-of-date technologies and replacing them with newer, more relevant ones.
- Photographs and illustrations have received a major face-lift. More than 80 new photographs and illustrations have been included.
- All chapters have been revised to increase readability of the text, figure and illustrations.
- The revised Chapter 15 includes completely revised information related to Mercury, Venus and Mars based upon information from the latest space missions.
- Chapter 23 includes the most recent IPCC information on Earth's changing climate and its causes.