

## **Digging Deeper: Essential Questions to Inspire Critical Thinking**

### **Air Pollution**

- In what other ways might air pollution affect Earth's systems?
- Have YOU ever felt the effects of air pollution? Explain.
- What behaviors are you willing to change to reduce air pollution? What are you unwilling to change?
- What else concerns you about air pollution?
- What else do you wonder about air pollution?

### **Sea Level Rise**

- In what other ways might sea level rise affect Earth's systems?
- Besides flooding, what other effects are there when sea levels rise?
- Do you think you personally will be affected by sea level rise in the future? How?
- How will knowing about sea level rise affect your future decision making?
- Are there winners, as well as losers when the sea level rises? Explain?
- How might people adapt to sea level rise?
- What else concerns you about sea level rise?
- What else do you wonder about sea level rise?

### **Earth's Systems Interact**

- Has the human race changed the way it lives in the past? How? Why? What were the results? Should we be changing again now? How? Why? What might be the results?
- What mistakes might people make if they don't understand how Earth's systems affect each other?
- What are other effects of a warming Earth? Positives? Negatives?
- Is it possible to have a major change in one system that doesn't affect any other system?
- In what other ways could you use models to understand big ideas?  
(see Challenge Activities for Students)