

Name

3.3 Earth's Magnetic Field

Review

1. Why does Earth have a magnetic field?
2. Why is it important for Earth to have a magnetic field?
3. What is a **magnetic field reversal**?

Explore More

Use this resource to answer the questions that follow.

1. What generates Earth's magnetic field? Why is the magnetic field important?
2. What is a magnetic field flip? Roughly how often does it happen?

3. Why do scientists interested in Earth's magnetic field collect cores from **rocks** at the Mid-Atlantic Ridge?
4. When was the last major magnetic field flip?
5. How do ancient pottery give scientists clues about Earth's magnetic field? Why is it more precise than **rocks**?

7. What has happened to magnetic north since it was first located in the early 19th century? How has the field changed in the past two centuries?