

The Earth's Biosphere Evolution Dynamics And

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a comprehensive overview of earth's biosphere written with scientific rigor and essay like flair in his latest book vaclav smil tells the story of the earth's biosphere from its origins to its near and long term future he explains the workings of its parts and what is known about their interactions with essay like flair he examines the biosphere's physics chemistry biology geology oceanography energy climatology and ecology as well as the changes caused by human activity he provides both the basics of the story and surprising asides illustrating critical but often neglected aspects of biospheric complexity smil begins with a history of the modern idea of the biosphere focusing on the development of the concept by russian scientist vladimir vernadsky he explores the probability of life elsewhere in the universe life's evolution and metabolism and the biosphere's extent mass productivity and grand scale organization smil offers fresh approaches to such well known phenomena as solar radiation and plate tectonics and introduces lesser known topics such as the quarter power scaling of animal and plant metabolism across body sizes and metabolic pathways he also examines two sets of fundamental relationships that have profoundly influenced the evolution of life and the persistence of the biosphere symbiosis and the role of life's complexity as a determinant of biomass productivity and resilience and he voices concern about the future course of human caused global environmental change which could compromise the biosphere's integrity and threaten the survival of modern civilization

the biosphere which is also known as the ecosphere is the global sum of all ecosystems it can also be characterized as the closed system on earth which is the zone of life and a system which is largely self regulating earth's biosphere is an ecological system that

integrates all living beings and their relationships it also includes their interactions with the elements of the lithosphere geosphere hydrosphere and atmosphere the biosphere is divided into a variety of biomes on the basis of latitudes all biomes are inhabited by diverse species of flora and fauna this book unravels the recent studies on the earth s biosphere it presents researches and studies performed by experts across the globe this book aims to equip students and experts with the advanced topics and upcoming concepts in this area

this ambitious book considers social scientific topics such as identity community sexual difference self and ecology from a microbial perspective harnessing research and evidence from earth systems science and microbiology and particularly focusing on symbiosis and symbiogenesis the book argues for the development of a microontology of life

the study of the biosphere the term biosphere first appeared in the works of the french biologist l b lamarck and the austrian geologist e suess in the 19th century in the 20th century the study of the biosphere attracted considerable attention largely due to the research of v i vernadsky 1863 1945 the results of vernadsky s investigations have appeared in a number of publications including the monograph the biosphere published in 1926 this work consists of two parts the biosphere in cosmos and the zone of life written in a form of speculation and reflection that is rarely used in modern studies this work concerns the distinguishing properties of the space occupied by organisms and the exceptional importance of the activities of these organisms in the formation of their environment in this and subsequent studies vernadsky has laid the foundations of the science of the biosphere which today plays an important role in the many branches of science concerned with the earth several terms have been suggested for the science of the biosphere including global ecology a discipline studying the global ecological system whose meaning is close to that of the biosphere one of the most prominent predecessors of vernadsky was his teacher v

the description for this book earth s earliest biosphere its origin and evolution will be forthcoming

a thoroughly revised edition of the highly successful geology textbook that discusses all important new developments in the field new features include an introductory chapter a chapter on the himalayas plus updated material on early active continental margins crustal evolution greenstone belts in india and west australia and granulite gneiss belts in india and the limpopo includes an updated bibliography

the authors of this book have studied the changes in the chemical composition of the atmosphere during geological history with regard to its close relationship to the evolution of the earth s sedimentary shell beginning in 1977 the initial results of this study have been published as articles and parts of several monographs since new material clarifying atmospheric evolution have been obtained recently the necessity has arisen to write a book treating the major results of investigations of the history of the atmosphere in this book much consideration is given to the interrelation between the evolution of animate nature and changes in atmospheric composition it proved be necessary to study the history of the two components of atmospheric air carbon dioxide and oxygen attempts have been made to represent quantitatively the conclusions drawn here i e to determine by calculation the changes in the amount of carbon dioxide and oxygen over much of the history of the atmosphere these calculations performed in most detail for the phanerozoic and to a lesser degree for the late precambrian are supplemented with estimates of changes in the chemical composition of the atmosphere in the early precambrian comparisons have been drawn between the changes in the chemical composition of the atmosphere and the development of animate nature a close relationship being found to exist between the stages of the evolution of organisms and variations in the chemical composition of the atmosphere

biology of animals originated as a textbook intended for the beginning college student

regardless of background seeking a general knowledge of the nature and functioning of animals and of the biosphere in which they live preface

the key to earth history an introduction to stratigraphy peter doyle matthew r bennett and alistair n baxter school of earth sciences university of greenwich uk the key to earth history is the first textbook on stratigraphy to introduce the student to the basic tools used by geologists to reconstruct earth s history as well as showing how these can be utilised to chart the pattern of global environmental change which has taken place since the formation of the earth some 4600 million years ago divided into two sections the book discusses how stratigraphy is the key to understanding the history of the earth and how it can be used as a dynamic tool in unravelling ancient earth environments the first part examines the basic stratigraphical methods used to establish date and interpret sequences of rocks as the products of a series of events in the earth s history the second part of the book presents the results obtained by geologists who have used these stratigraphical tools in order to build up a record of the way in which the earth s global environment has changed through geological time the reader is introduced to these concepts through the use of boxes highlighting key points together with international case histories and this user friendly approach will ensure that the key to earth history is essential first year reading for geology environmental science and geography undergraduates

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