



Dear Educator,

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The “The Earth” unit offers [17 pages](#).

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The Earth



Earth



**The Earth is like a giant spaceship moving through space.
The sun and its planets are called the solar system.**

**There are eight planets in our solar system. • Earth is the third planet from the sun.
It is about 93 million miles from the sun. • The planet Earth has one moon.**

Look up the definitions of the words below, and write them on the lines.

equator _____

planet _____



Many years ago people did not know much about the Earth. Some of them began to explore it. Today many scientists study the Earth. These scientists are called Earth scientists.

The Earth is about 24,818 miles around at the equator. The Earth is in the shape of a sphere.

It is not perfectly round. The Earth bulges a little at the equator and is slightly flattened at the poles. The North Pole has a slight bulge. Scientists say the Earth is some what pear-shaped.

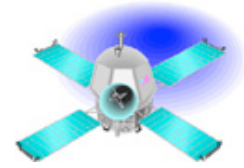
**Draw a line on the picture to show
where the equator is located on the Earth.**



Earth

A view of the Earth's atmosphere.

exosphere



Satellites orbit the Earth in the exosphere.

thermosphere



The International Space Station orbits the Earth in the thermosphere.

mesosphere



It is very cold in the mesosphere. This layer of air protects the Earth from being hit by most meteoroids.

stratosphere



The protective ozone layer is found in the stratosphere. Supersonic jets can fly here.

troposphere



Life on the Earth lives in the troposphere. Airplanes, jets, clouds, and weather are found here.

Earth

Criss Cross

Can you fit these words into the criss cross?
Use a pencil so you can erase if you need to.

gravity
gases

equator
solar

space
spins

globe
heat

