Earth is the third [planet](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Planet) from the [Sun](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sun), and the [densest](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Density) and fifth-largest of the eight planets in the Solar System 1.

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Earth formed [approximately 4.54 billion years](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Age_of_the_Earth) ago, and [life appeared](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Abiogenesis) on its surface within one billion years.