**Earth** is the planet we live on. It is the third planet from the [sun](https://simple.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sun). It is the only planet known to have [life](https://simple.wikipedia.org/wiki/Life) on it. Lots of scientists think the earth [formed around 4.5 billion years ago](https://simple.wikipedia.org/wiki/Age_of_the_Earth).[[5]](https://simple.wikipedia.org/wiki/Earth#cite_note-age_earth-5) It is one of four [rocky planets](https://simple.wikipedia.org/wiki/Terrestrial_planet) on the inside of the [Solar System](https://simple.wikipedia.org/wiki/Solar_System). The other three are [Mercury](https://simple.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mercury_(planet)), [Venus](https://simple.wikipedia.org/wiki/Venus) and [Mars](https://simple.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mars_(planet)).

The large [mass](https://simple.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mass) of the sun makes Earth [move around it](https://simple.wikipedia.org/wiki/Orbit), just as the mass of Earth makes the [moon](https://simple.wikipedia.org/wiki/Moon) move around it. Earth also turns around in space, so that different parts face the sun at different times. Earth goes around the [sun](https://simple.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sun) once (one "[year](https://simple.wikipedia.org/wiki/Year)") for every 365¼ times it turns all the way around (one "[day](https://simple.wikipedia.org/wiki/Day)").

Earth is the only [planet](https://simple.wikipedia.org/wiki/Planet) in our solar system that has a large amount of [liquid](https://simple.wikipedia.org/wiki/Liquid) [water](https://simple.wikipedia.org/wiki/Water).[[6]](https://simple.wikipedia.org/wiki/Earth#cite_note-6) About 71[%](https://simple.wikipedia.org/wiki/Percent) of the surface of Earth is covered by [oceans](https://simple.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ocean). Because of this, people some times called it "blue planet".[[7]](https://simple.wikipedia.org/wiki/Earth#cite_note-7)

Because of its water, Earth is home to millions of [species](https://simple.wikipedia.org/wiki/Species) of [plants](https://simple.wikipedia.org/wiki/Plant) and [animals](https://simple.wikipedia.org/wiki/Animal).[[8]](https://simple.wikipedia.org/wiki/Earth#cite_note-8)[[9]](https://simple.wikipedia.org/wiki/Earth#cite_note-purves_et_al2001-9) The things that live on Earth have changed its surface greatly. For example, early [cyanobacteria](https://simple.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cyanobacteria) changed the [air](https://simple.wikipedia.org/wiki/Atmosphere_of_Earth#History_of_Earth.27s_atmosphere) and gave it [oxygen](https://simple.wikipedia.org/wiki/Oxygen). The living part of Earth's surface is called the "[biosphere](https://simple.wikipedia.org/wiki/Biosphere)".[[10]](https://simple.wikipedia.org/wiki/Earth#cite_note-10)