

Mount Litera Zee School Roorkee
Grade –VI
Subject-General Knowledge

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Let us know our planet EARTH



1. Plate Tectonics Keep the Planet Comfortable:

Earth is the only planet in the Solar System with plate tectonics. These not only help in geographical processes like volcanoes and the earthquakes but also take the dead plants and animals under the oceans into the earth's core and recycle them. This reduces the Carbon in the atmosphere and keeps the planet cool.....safe from the green house effect.

2. Earth is not exactly a Sphere:

Earth's shape is similar to a sphere, but here the poles are flattened and the equator bulges. In the case of the Earth, this bulge is due to our planet's rotation. This means that the measurement from pole to pole is about 43 km less than the diameter of Earth across the equator. Even though the tallest mountain on Earth is Mount Everest, the structure that's furthest from the center of the Earth is actually Mount Chimborazo in Ecuador.

3. Earth is Mostly Iron, Oxygen and Silicon:

If you could separate the Earth out into piles of material, you'd get 32.1 % iron, 30.1% oxygen, 15.1% silicon, and 13.9% magnesium. Of course, most of this iron is actually located at the core of the Earth. If you could actually get down and sample the core, it would be 88% iron. And if you sampled the Earth's crust, you'd find that 47% of it is oxygen.

4. 70% of the Earth's Surface is Covered in Water:

When astronauts first went into the space, they looked back at the Earth with human eyes for the first time. Based on their observations, the Earth acquired the nickname the “Blue Planet”. And it’s no surprise, seeing as how 70% of our planet is covered with oceans. The remaining 30% is the solid crust that is located above sea level, hence why it is called the “continental crust”.

5. The Earth's Atmosphere Extends to a Distance of 10,000 km:

Earth's atmosphere is thickest within the first 50 km from the surface or so, but it actually reaches out to about 10,000 km into space. It is made up of five main layers – the Troposphere, the Stratosphere, the Mesosphere, the Thermosphere, and the Exosphere. As a rule, air pressure and density decrease the higher one goes into the atmosphere and the farther one is from the surface.

6. The Earth's Molten Iron Core Creates a Magnetic Field:

The Earth is like a great big magnet, with poles at the top and bottom near to the actual geographic poles. The magnetic field it creates extends thousands of kilometers out from the surface of the Earth – forming a region called the “magnetosphere”.

7. Earth Doesn't Take 24 Hours to Rotate on its Axis:

It actually takes 23 hours, 56 minutes and 4 seconds for the Earth to rotate once completely on its axis, which astronomers refer to as a Sidereal Day. Now wait a second, doesn't that mean that a day is 4 minutes shorter than we think it is? You'd think that this time would add up, day by day, and within a few months, day would be night, and night would be day.

But remember that the Earth orbits around the Sun. Every day, the Sun moves by 1° in the sky. And so, if you add up that little motion from the Sun that we see because the Earth is orbiting around it, as well as the rotation on its axis, you get a total of 24 hours. This is what is known as a Solar Day, which – contrary to a Sidereal Day – is the amount of time it takes the Sun to return to the same place in the sky.

8. A year on Earth isn't 365 days:

It's actually 365.2564 days. It's this extra .2564 days that creates the need for a Leap Year once every four years. That's why we tack on an extra day in February every four years.

9. Earth has 1 Moon and 2 Co-Orbital Satellites:

As you're probably aware, Earth has 1 satellite, *The Moon*. But did you know there are 2 additional asteroids locked into a co-orbital (same orbits) with Earth? They're called 3753 Cruithne and 2002 AA₂₉, which are part of a larger population of asteroids known as Near-Earth Objects (NEOs).

10. Earth is the Only Planet Known to Have Life:

We've discovered past evidence of water and organic molecules on Mars, and the building blocks of life on Saturn's moon Titan. We can see amino acids in nebulae in deep space. And scientists have speculated about the possible existence of life beneath the icy crust of Jupiter's moon Europa and Saturn's moon Titan. But Earth is the only place life has actually been discovered.

That is all for today students.....

Please write these facts in a notebook for general knowledge.....

there is a lot to know about things around us

keep learning and adding to your knowledge.....

If you have any queries you can call me at

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Sangeeta Pruthi.....