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**LESSON**  
PART 2





### In this lesson, we shall learn about :

- ◆ The surface of the earth
- ◆ The atmosphere
- ◆ Shape of the earth

### □ New Words

atmosphere, Portuguese, astronaut, horizon, coast

Our earth is one of the **eight planets** that revolve round the sun. Our **solar system** consists of eight planets. All these planets revolve round the sun. Earth is the **third nearest** planet to the sun. It is the only planet which has life.

### □ Some Facts :

The earth is about 150 million kilometres away from the sun.



*Our Earth*

**Surface of the Earth:** Our earth is **round** in shape. **Three-fourths** of it is full of water and only **one-fourth** is land.

### □ Some Facts :

Our earth is called a blue planet because it looks blue when seen from space.

### □ Think and Discuss

Name the major gases in atmosphere.

**The Atmosphere :** Our earth is surrounded by a layer of air which is called **atmosphere**. Air is a mixture of gases. It is very important for all the living beings like plants, birds, animals and human beings. Life on the earth is possible due to the presence of water and air.



### Activity

Can you name the gases which are more in the air we breathe in and out ?



### Remember

The earth is about 3,84,000 kilometres away from the moon.

**Shape of the Earth:** Our earth is round like a ball. Earlier people believed that the earth was flat and had edges. If anyone would go near these edges, he would fall. They were afraid of going beyond a certain distance.

About five hundred years ago, in 1519, a Portuguese sailor named **Ferdinand Magellan** proved that the earth is round. He started his journey from Spain and sailed round the earth. He continued his journey in the same direction.

After three years, his followers returned to the same point from where he had started. This proved that the earth is round.

*Ferdinand Magellan*



*Magellan's route round the earth*



### Some Facts :

Magellan is pronounced as **Ma-jelln**.

In 1969, two American astronauts Neil Armstrong and Edwin Aldrin first stepped on the moon. They took many photographs of the earth from the moon. These photographs show that the earth is round in shape.



### Some Facts :

The name of the spaceship of Neil Armstrong and Edwin Aldrin was **Apollo - 11** .



The earth does not have the perfect round shape. It is slightly flat at the top and at the bottom, almost like an orange in shape. The central points of these flat areas are known as **Poles** - the **North Pole** and the **South Pole**.



**Horizon :** If we stand on the top of a high building, the earth and the sky appear to be meeting at some place. This place is called Horizon. Actually, the earth and the sky never meet as they appear. If we start moving towards the horizon, it also moves further away.



### Activity

If you stand on a sea-shore, what do you see at the point of horizon ?

**Coast :** The line where land and ocean meet each other is known as the **Coast**. From the coast, we can see that the sky and the water appear to meet. If a ship is coming towards the coast, first, we see its top, then the middle part of the ship is seen. When it comes closer, we are able to see the whole ship. It again proves that the earth is round.



### THINGS TO REMEMBER

1. The solar system has eight planets.
2. All these planets revolve round the sun.
3. Our earth is one of them.
4. The shape of the earth is round.
5. The surface of the earth is made up of land and water.
6. The earth has  $\frac{3}{4}$ <sup>th</sup> part of water and  $\frac{1}{4}$ <sup>th</sup> area of land.
7. The life on the earth is possible due to the presence of water and air.
8. The land and the sky appear to meet at horizon.
9. The land and sea meet at the coast.
10. Ferdinand Magellan was the first person to prove that the earth is round.



## EXERCISE

### A. Write 'T' for True and 'F' for False :

1. Our earth is the nearest planet to the sun. ( )
2. Our earth is called a blue planet. ( )
3. 70 per cent part of our earth is land. ( )
4. Our earth is slightly flat at the top and at the bottom. ( )
5. The place where the earth and the sky appear to meet is called horizon. ( )

### B. Fill in the blanks :

1. Our \_\_\_\_\_ system consists of eight planets.
2. The layer of air which surrounds the earth is called \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_ was a Portuguese sailor, proved the earth is round.
4. Neil Armstrong and \_\_\_\_\_ stepped on moon first.
5. The central points of flat areas of the earth are called \_\_\_\_\_
6. Magellan completed his journey in \_\_\_\_\_ years.

### C. Match the following :

- |                        |     |                                 |
|------------------------|-----|---------------------------------|
| 1. Blue planet         | ( ) | (a) A layer of air              |
| 2. Apollo- 11          | ( ) | (b) $\frac{3}{4}$ <sup>th</sup> |
| 3. Atmosphere          | ( ) | (c) The earth                   |
| 4. Water area on earth | ( ) | (d) $\frac{1}{4}$ <sup>th</sup> |
| 5. Land area on earth  | ( ) | (e) Spaceship                   |

### D. Answer the following questions :

1. On which heavenly body is life possible ?
2. What is the surface of the earth made up of ?
3. What is the horizon ?
4. What are the two poles and where are they ?
5. What is a coast ?



*Project / Activity*

**E. Collect pictures of some astronauts and paste them here :**

**F. Draw the shape of the earth and label the poles :**

A large, empty rounded rectangular box with a brown border, intended for a drawing of the Earth and labeling of its poles.