

EARTH

- Earth is the fifth largest planet in the solar system.

- Earth formed 4.5 billion years ago.

- Life appeared 1 billion years ago.

- Earth should be able to support life for another 1.5 billion years when the sun's rising luminosity will eliminate the biosphere.

- About 71% of the Earth is covered with salt water.

- Earth has a solid iron core, a molten "outer" core and a solid mantle. The mantle is 1800 miles thick and constitutes 84% of the earth's mass.



1.)

- The point farthest from the planet's center is not Mt. Everest, it's Mt Chimborazo in Ecuador (this is the consequence of the fact that the earth bulges at the equator, being essentially a rotating tub of water). to the earth's bulge).

- Earth has a ribbon of atmosphere three quarters of which is within 7 miles of the earth's surface.

- From space, Earth appears blue.

- The Earth's mass increases by approximately 1000 tons per year due to the accumulation of space dust.

- The Earth's rotational speed is slowing due to drag provided by the tidal bulge generated by the moon. This increases the length of the day enough that periodically we have to insert a *leap second*.

- The recent Chilean earthquake moved the Earth's axis by 3 inches thereby. The consequence was that each day is 1.26 microseconds shorter.

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