

# Here we are

By Oliver Jeffers

Well, hello. Welcome to this planet. We call it Earth. It is the big globe, floating in space, on which we live. Were glad you found us as space is very big. There is much to see and do here on Earth, so lets get started with a quick tour.

The planet is basically made up of two parts. Land (rock and dirt) and sea (water). Firstly, lets talk about the land. Its what we are standing on right now. We know lots about the land. Then there is the sea, which is full of wonderful things. We know a bit about the sea, but well talk more about that once youve learned to swim. There is also the sky. Though that can get pretty complicated...

OK moving on. On our planet, there are people. One people is a person. You are a person. You have a body. Look after it, as most bits dont grow back. The most important things for people to remember are to eat, drink and stay warm. People come in many shapes, sizes and colours. We may all look different, act different and sound different but dont be fooled we are all people. There are animals, too. They come in even more shapes, sizes and colours. They cant speak, though thats no reason not to be nice to them. You may not be able to speak yet either, even though your head is filled with questions. Be patient, youll learn how to use new words soon enough.

Generally how it works is that when the sun is out, it is daytime, and we do stuff. The rest of the time is night when it is dark, save for the moon, and we sleep. Things can sometimes move slowly here on Earth. More often though, they move quickly, so use your time well. It will be gone before you know it.

Though we have come a long way, we havent quite worked everything out, so there is plenty left for you to do. You will figure lots of things out for yourself. Just remember to leave notes for everyone else. It looks big, Earth. But there are lots of us on here (7, 327, 450, 667 and counting) so be kind. There is enough for everyone.

Well, that is Planet Earth. Make sure you look after it as its all weve got. Now, if you need to know anything else just ask. I wont be faraway. And when Im not around you can always ask someone else. Youre never alone on Earth.