PLANETS FOR KIDS • TEACHER LESSON PLAN

Let's Meet Earth!

A fun 45-minute celebration of our amazing home — the only planet known to have life.

Lesson at a Glance

LESSON	Let's Meet Earth!
AGE GROUP	Ages 5–12 (with tips for adapting younger and older)
TIME	45 minutes
SUBJECT	Science / Astronomy
MATERIALS	Earth PowerPoint, projector or whiteboard, paper, crayons or coloured pencils, optional: globe or world map

What Will Students Learn?

By the end of this lesson, your class will be able to:

- Recognise Earth as the third planet from the Sun and the only known home of life.
- Describe the “Goldilocks zone” — why Earth’s distance from the Sun is just right.
- Identify what makes Earth special: liquid water, an atmosphere, and a moon.
- Appreciate Earth as a planet worth caring for.

Warm-Up: Spark Curiosity (5 min)

Get the class excited by asking: “What’s the most amazing thing about your favourite place on Earth?” Let a few hands shoot up. Then drop the hook:

> **Try this!**
> Hold up a globe (or show a world map). Tell the class: “Every person who has ever lived has lived right here, on this little blue ball. Astronauts call it ‘the pale blue dot.’ Today we’re going to look at our home like we’re visiting it for the first time.”

Then say: “Ready to look at Earth like a space alien would? Let’s go!”

Main Lesson: The Earth PowerPoint (15 min)

Open the Earth_For_Kids.pptx slide deck and walk through it together. Don’t just read the slides — pause, ask questions, let kids react.

Slides to slow down on:

- Slide 3 (Earth at a Glance) — Ask: “You know all these numbers because you LIVE here! 365 days, 24 hours, 1 moon. You’re Earth experts already!”
- Slide 4 (The Just-Right Planet) — Goldilocks zone moment. Have kids act it out: too hot (panting), too cold (shivering), just right (smile).
- Slide 6 (A World of Water and Land) — 70% water! Show the globe and have kids notice how blue it is.
- Slide 7 (Earth’s Best Friend — the Moon) — Ask: “Have you seen the Moon this week? What did it look like?”
- Slide 12 (Quiz Time!) — Save this for the wrap-up at the end of the lesson.

> **Teacher tip**
> Don’t feel you need to read every word on every slide. Pick the bits that get the loudest reactions and let the class drive the energy.

Activity: My Favourite Earth Place (20 min)

Each student picks their favourite place on Earth and creates a postcard celebrating why our planet is so amazing.

On one side of the postcard, draw:

- Their favourite Earth place — a beach, a forest, a mountain, their own backyard, anywhere!
- Some Earth-only things: a tree, an animal, a river, clouds, the Sun.

On the other side, write a thank-you note to Earth like:

- “Dear Earth, thank you for ___. I love your ___ and your ___.”
- Include 2-3 facts about why Earth is special (water, air, the right temperature).

> **Adapt for younger kids (ages 5-7)**
> Skip the writing — just have them draw their favourite Earth place. Provide a simple template: “My favourite place is ___” for them to fill in.

> **Challenge older kids (ages 10-12)**
> Add a science angle: have them explain WHY their favourite place is possible on Earth (e.g., “My beach exists because Earth has liquid water, which exists because we’re in the Goldilocks zone”).

Wrap-Up: Quiz Time! (5 min)

Bring everyone back together and run through the quiz slide from the PowerPoint as a group. Encourage shouting out answers — make it celebratory! End by asking:

- “What’s the coolest thing you learned about Earth today?”
- “If you could send one message to Earth, what would you say?”

Quick Lesson Flow

TIME	SEGMENT	WHAT HAPPENS
5 min	**Warm-up**	Spark curiosity with a fun question and a quick demo.
15 min	**Main lesson**	Walk through the Earth PowerPoint, slide by slide.
20 min	**Activity**	Hands-on: my Favourite Earth Place.
5 min	**Wrap-up & quiz**	Run through the quiz slide together and celebrate what they learned!

Discussion Questions (use any time)

- What’s one thing about Earth that you’ll never take for granted again?
- If you were an alien visiting Earth, what would surprise you most?
- What can WE do to help take care of our planet?
- Why is Earth the only planet we know of with life? What makes it special?

Extension Ideas

- Coloring page (great for early finishers or homework — see the Earth resource page).
- Geography link: Find your country on the globe and figure out what’s on the OPPOSITE side of Earth.
- Writing prompt: Write a tour-guide brochure inviting aliens to visit Earth.
- Class display: Make a giant collage of “Favourite Earth Places” — one big celebration of our home.

What You’ll Need

- Earth_For_Kids.pptx (download from the Earth resource page)
- Projector or whiteboard to display the slides
- Paper for the activity (one per student)
- Crayons, coloured pencils, or markers
- Optional demo props (see Warm-Up section)

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