

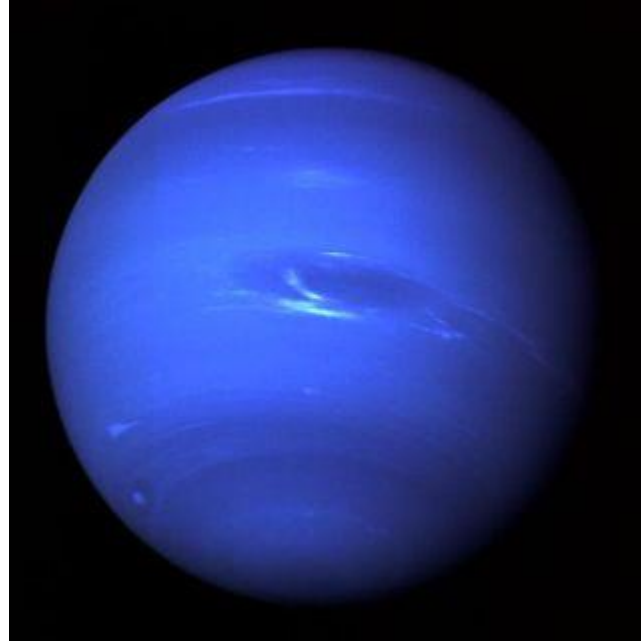
# Why the Earth Matters



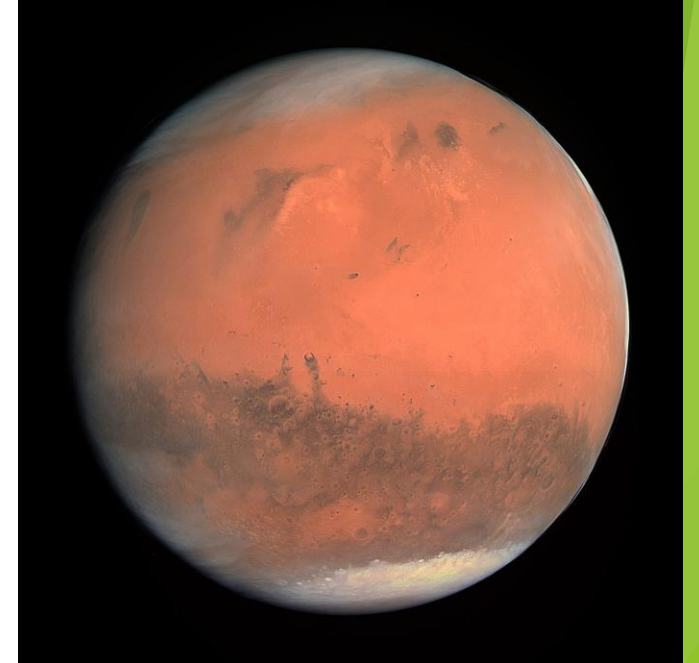
# Earth is the only planet viable for life



Venus is too hot and is a gaseous planet

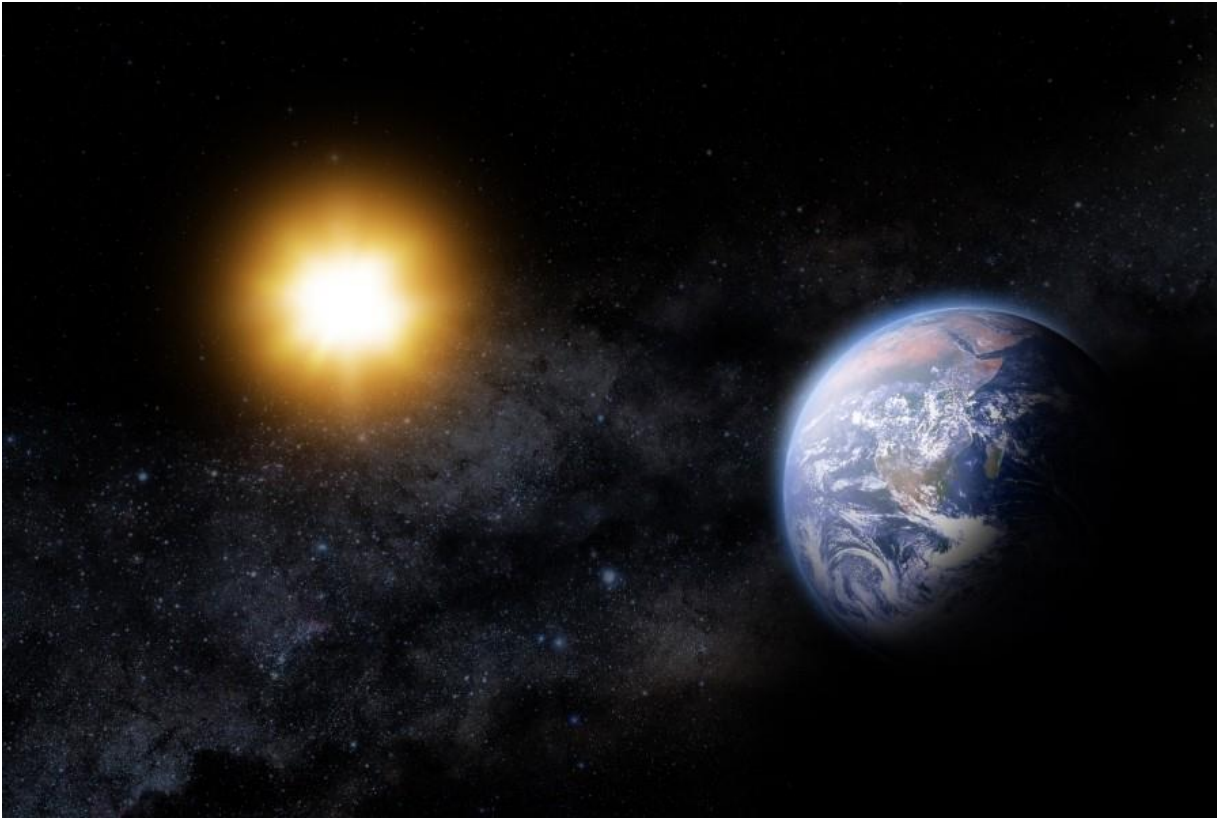


Neptune is too far, too cold and has many storms



Mars? Mars might have potential for life, but research still has to be done

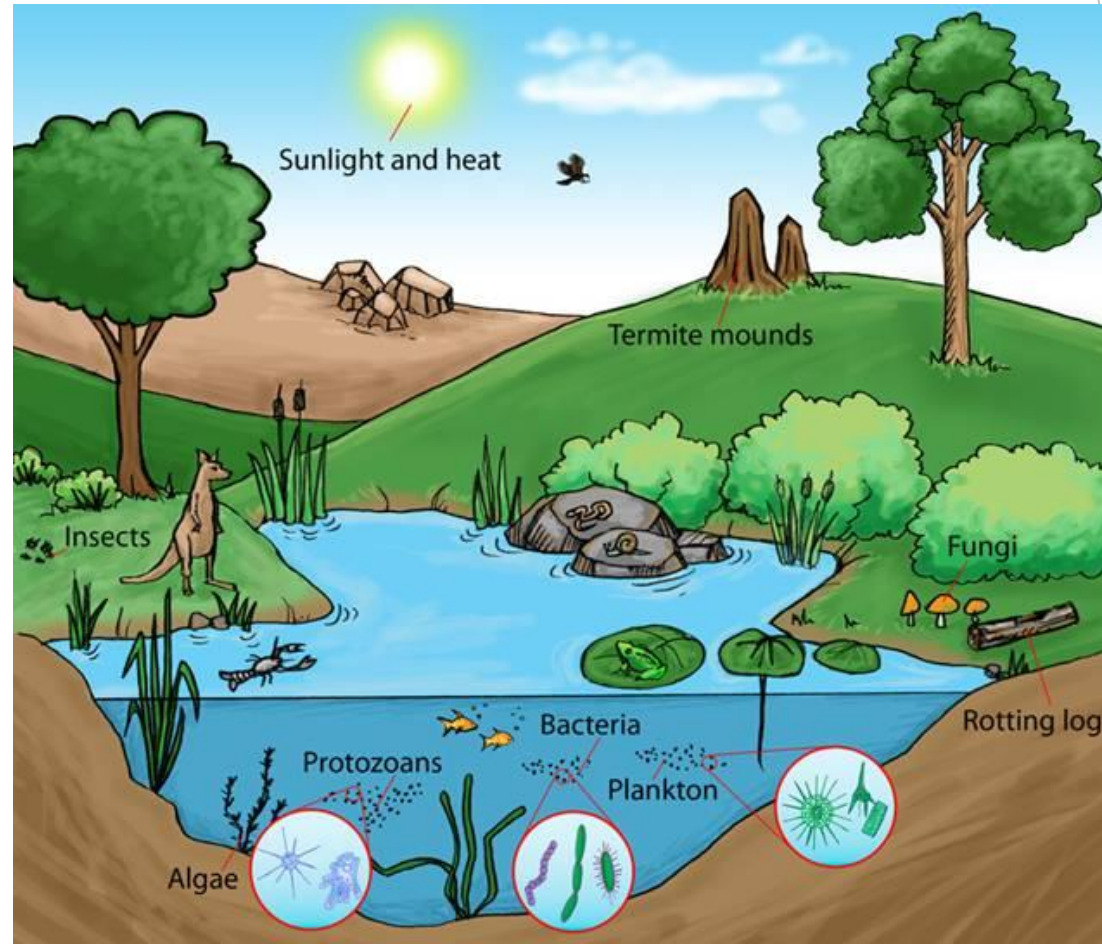
# Earth is the perfect distance away from the sun to support life



If Earth was any closer or farther from the sun, it would either be too hot, or too cold to support all life on the planet

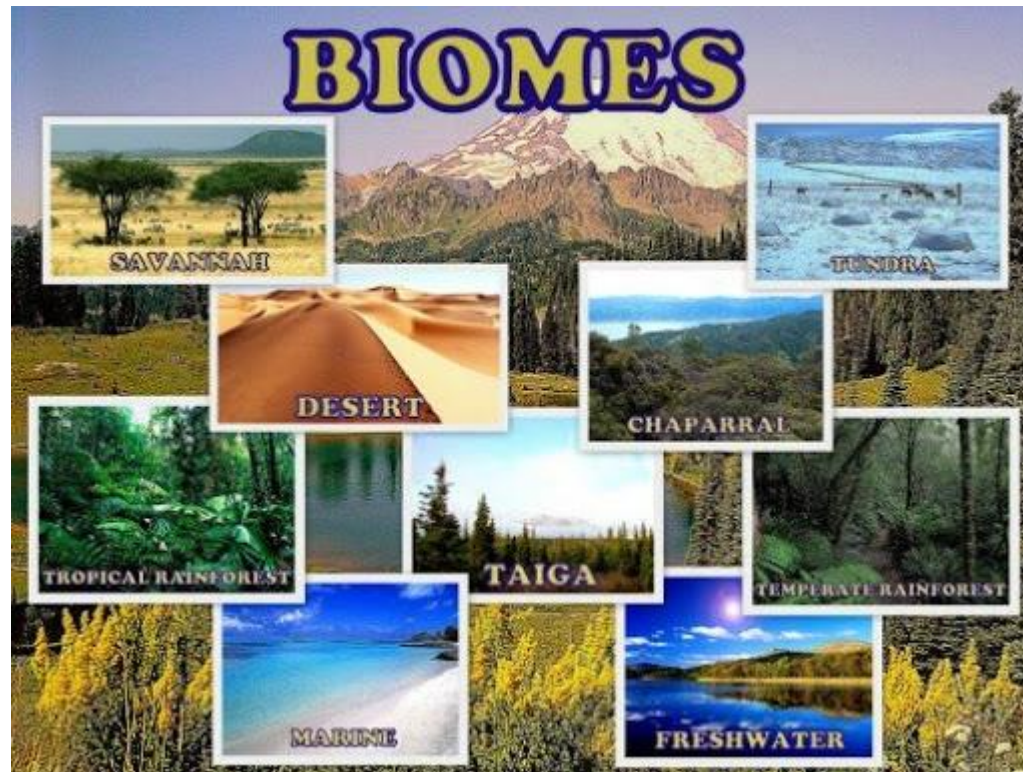
# Earth has different ecosystems

- ▶ What are ecosystems?
- ▶ An **ecosystem** is a community of living and non living organisms interacting with their physical environment



# What are all of the ecosystems?

- ▶ There are eight major ecosystems: The temperate forest, tropical forest, desert, grassland, taiga, the tundra, the chaparral, and the ocean.



# The Temperate Forest



- Temperate forest have rainfall which promotes tree growth
- Trees lose their leaves in the fall
- Temperate Forests have four distinct seasons
- The soil is rich
- Deer, bears and squirrels are some of the animals that live in the Temperate Forest

# The Tropical Forest



- Tropical Rainforests have lots of rainfall and moisture
- Hot temperatures and humidity
- “Nutrient-poor” soil
- Very high levels of species diversity. It is said that about 10% of the species found on Earth can be found in the Rainforest.
- Jaguars, Macaws and Monkeys are some of the animals that can be found in the Rainforest

# The Desert



- Deserts have very little rainfall
- They have extreme temperatures, very hot during the day and very cold at night.
- Deserts are very dry
- Some animals that live in the deserts are Jack Rabbits, Coyotes, and Mountain Lions



# The Grassland



- Vegetation is mostly grasses
- Has some of the most fertile soil on Earth
- Grasslands are typically used for agriculture
- Very few trees in this ecosystem
- Grasslands in the U.S. typically have bison and mice, while grasslands in Africa have Zebras, Gazelles and Lions

# The Taiga (or Boreal Forest)



- Long winters (up to 6 months)
- Has coniferous tree species (meaning there are a lot of evergreen trees in the Boreal Forest. These trees are green all year round, and are pine trees)
- Wolves, Moose, Foxes and Owls are some of the animals that live in a Boreal Forest



# The Tundra



- Extremely cold climate
- Short season of growth
- The ground is mostly frozen and there is little life in this ecosystem
- Some animals that live in this climate are Caribou, Arctic Foxes, Muskox, and Polar Bears



# The Chaparral



- Chaparral is usually located on the coast
- Has hot dry summers, and mild rainy winters
- The chaparral is most vulnerable to fire in the summer and early fall
- This ecosystem is important, because it protects the land from erosion

# The Ocean



- The ocean is one of the largest ecosystems in the world!
- The various amounts of life, (such as animals and plants, vary by the light that is distributed in the ocean, the nutrients, and depth of the ocean
- 71% of the Earth's surface is covered by oceans
- There are countless of animals that live in the oceans

# What are the risks that effect these habitats?



Rainforests are very vulnerable to deforestation and logging of trees. Many of the trees are being clear cut, which destroys many habitats, and causes animals to flee and find new homes.

Polar Bears live in the Tundra, where the permafrost is melting rapidly. This causes Polar Bears to search for food for longer periods of time, sometimes unsuccessful, or displacing Polar Bears to different areas.



The Oceans are the most vulnerable to plastic pollution. Plastic takes hundreds of years to breakdown, and it doesn't break down fully. Plastic normally breaks down in micro plastics, which causes many organisms to ingest it and become sick.



# What can you do to help?

## 9 WAYS YOU CAN REDUCE OCEAN PLASTIC

1



Boycott single-use plastic

2



Join the reusable revolution

3



Shop local & request plastic-free packaging

4



Minimise bathroom & cleaning products

5



Purchase second hand instead of buying new

6



Buy fewer, high quality items made to last

7



Choose products made from recycled materials

8



Consider sharing or hiring instead of owning

9



Lead by example to inspire others too

#BeTheChange #UseLessPlastic

LESS PLASTIC.

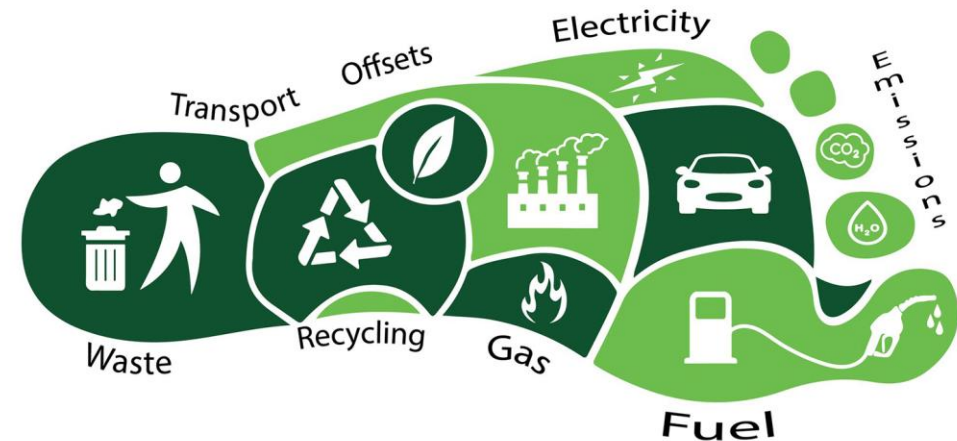
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# PLEASE

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Respect the Earth! It is the only one you have!

