

ACTIVITY ONE

WELCOME, EARTHLINGS

In *Escape From Planet Earth*, the blue alien residents of the planet Baab think daring astronaut Scorch Supernova is a national hero. Scorch has accomplished some amazing missions thanks to his quiet, cautious brother, Gary, who heads mission control at the space agency BASA. But when Scorch responds to an SOS from a notoriously dangerous planet (Earth), he needs all the help he can get!

Earth may be a mystery to Scorch Supernova, Gary, and other planet Baab inhabitants, but is it a mystery to you? Test your knowledge of Earth to help Baabian scientists sort out fact from fiction.

- 1. What makes up nearly 70 percent of Earth's surface?**
A. water B. land C. volcanoes
- 2. About how many people call Earth home?**
A. 690,000 B. 69 million C. 6.9 billion
- 3. Earth is the _____ planet from the sun.**
A. second B. third C. fifth
- 4. It takes Earth nearly _____ days to circle the sun.**
A. 30 days B. 180 days C. 365 days
- 5. About how old do scientists think Earth is?**
A. 4.5 million years old
B. 4.5 billion years old
C. 4.5 trillion years old
- 6. There are about _____ languages spoken on Earth.**
A. 700 B. 7,000 C. 7 million
- 7. How is Earth different from the other planets in our solar system?**
A. Earth is the only planet that circles the sun.
B. Earth is the only planet in which scientists have found life.
C. Earth is the largest planet.
- 8. How many days does it take the moon to circle Earth?**
A. 29.5 days
B. 180 days
C. 365 days

EARTH: HOME SWEET HOME

Imagine that Gary's son, Kip, who lives on the planet Baab, is spending a day with you on Earth. It's up to you to show him what life is like on our planet. On the back of this sheet, describing how you and Kip would spend a typical day exploring your part of Earth. What "Earthy" activities would you want to be sure that Kip doesn't miss out on?

FAMILY FUN

Use the quiz above to test your parents' knowledge of our home planet. Then blast off on your own expedition to Earth at <http://science.nationalgeographic.com/science/space/solar-system/earth.html>.



**ESCAPE
FROM PLANET
EARTH**

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