



atmosphere (Earth's) – the mixture of gases that surrounds planet Earth

axis – an imaginary straight line around which Earth rotates

bee – a flying insect with a furry body that makes a buzzing sound as it flies. Some bees make honey

carbon dioxide – a gas without colour or smell that forms part of our atmosphere. It is absorbed by plants in photosynthesis

city – an urban area where a large number of people live and work

cloud – a visible mass of water or ice particles in the atmosphere from which rain, snow or hail might fall

coast – the land beside the sea

continent – any of the large land masses in the world, usually listed as Africa, Antarctica, Asia, Oceania, Europe, North America and South America

country – a nation or state with boundaries and some kind of political independence

decision – something that you choose to do after considering other choices

diversity – variety and difference

Earth – the only planet we know of in the universe that can support life and home to humankind

energy – a source of power. On Earth, the sun is the original source of nearly all energy. This energy keeps us warm, gives us light and makes things grow

environment – our surroundings and all of the factors that affect the life and activities of people, plants and animals

equator – an imaginary circle around Earth that is the same distance from the North and South Poles and divides the world into the northern and southern hemispheres

flow – to move freely from one place to another

food chain – a connected chain of living things, each of which feeds on the previous one

forest – a large area of land covered in trees and other plants growing close together

future – events that have not yet happened; a time yet to come

global – relating to or happening throughout the whole world

globe – a map of Earth on a sphere

honey – sweet, sticky fluid made by bees from the nectar of flowers

island – an area of land, smaller than a continent, which is completely surrounded by water

landmass – a very large unbroken area of land, e.g. a continent

light – an energy producing brightness that makes seeing possible

local – the nearby area, the neighbourhood

map – a visual representation of all or part of the Earth's surface or of a place in the imagination

mountain – a high and often rocky area of a landmass with steep or sloping sides

nectar – a sweet liquid made by plants to attract insects

ocean – a large expanse of salt water. The Earth's five main seas: the Atlantic, Pacific, Indian, Arctic, and Antarctic oceans

oxygen – a colourless gas without a smell that is essential for life on Earth

phytoplankton – microscopically small plants which float or swim weakly in fresh or salt water bodies

planet – an astronomical object that orbits a star and does not shine with its own light

polar – found in the regions surrounding the North or South Poles

Poles – the North and South Poles are either end of the imaginary line of rotation of the Earth

pollen – a powdery stuff made by plants that is carried by wind and insects to other plants in order to make seeds

river – a natural stream of water that flows through land and empties into a body of water such as a sea or lake

scale – the extent or size of something such as the ratio of a map or model. When we 'zoom' into places we look at parts of the world at different scales

sea – a body of salt water that covers a large portion of Earth

space – the region that lies beyond Earth's atmosphere and all it contains

star – an astronomical object usually visible as a bright point of light in the sky

sun – the star at the centre of our solar system around which Earth and seven other planets orbit

sustain – to keep something going as well as you can

waggle dance – a dance that bees do to tell other bees where to find food

water – the clear colourless liquid that has no taste or smell when pure. It occurs as rain, snow, and ice, forms rivers and lakes and is essential for life

waterfall – happens when river water travels over a steep place, causing the water to plunge downwards

whales – a large sea mammal that breathes through a blowhole on top of its head

wonder – amazement, admiration or awe at something beautiful or new