

Earth as an apple - demonstration

Hold up your apple to the class and ask them to imagine that the apple is Earth.

Slice an apple into quarters. Set aside three of the quarters: these represent the oceans of the world. The fourth quarter roughly represents the total land area left.

Slice the land quarter in half, giving you two $\frac{1}{8}$ th world pieces. Set aside one piece. This is land inhospitable to people (polar areas, deserts, swamps, very high or rocky mountainous areas). The other $\frac{1}{8}$ th piece is the land where people live, but not necessarily where the food needed for our survival is grown.

Now slice this $\frac{1}{8}$ th piece into four sections, giving you four $\frac{1}{32}$ nd pieces. Set aside three of these pieces and explain to students that these represent the areas too rocky, too wet, too cold, too steep, or with soil quality that is too poor to produce food. They also include the areas of land that could produce food but are buried under cities, roads, housing developments, shopping centres, and other structures that people have built.

This leaves a $\frac{1}{32}$ nd slice of the earth. Carefully peel this slice. This tiny bit of peel represents the surface of the earth that provides nearly everything we need to survive.

