





# Scientific Ideas and Evidence





Insert the key words below into the correct sentences. Re-read to check they make sense!

**Key Words:** see ships shadows flat ideas question observations

Long ago many people believed the Earth was \_\_\_\_\_ (  )

Their only evidence came from what they could \_\_\_\_\_ (  )

Slowly, \_\_\_\_\_ (  ) started to change.

Some very clever ancient Greeks started to \_\_\_\_\_ (  ) ideas about the shape of the Earth.

They made \_\_\_\_\_ (  ) and used this evidence to support their ideas.

The evidence included the way \_\_\_\_\_ (  ) sailed across the sea.

Also, it was due to the \_\_\_\_\_ (  ) cast on the Moon by the Earth during a lunar eclipse.

What do you think? Is the Earth flat or spherical? Why do you think that?

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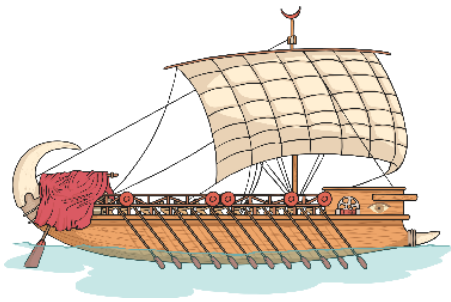
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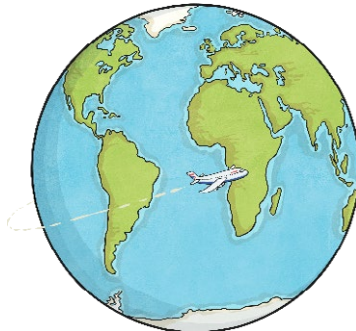
# Scientific Ideas and Evidence



Which piece of evidence is the most important in proving the Earth is spherical? Circle just one.



Sailors made observations about the position of the Sun and stars.



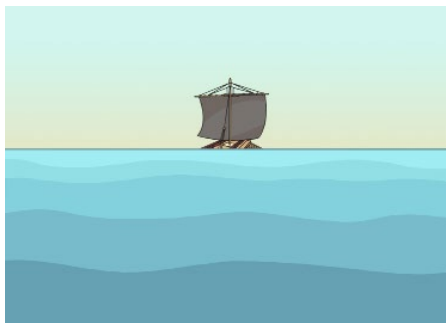
Planes have flown around the world and never seen the edge.



Shadows cast by the Earth on the Moon during a lunar eclipse.



Ships have sailed all the way around the world.



Observations of ships sailing across the horizon.



Pictures of Earth viewed from space.

I think the strongest evidence that the Earth is spherical is \_\_\_\_\_

My first reason for this is \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

My second reason for this is \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_



# Scientific Ideas and Evidence

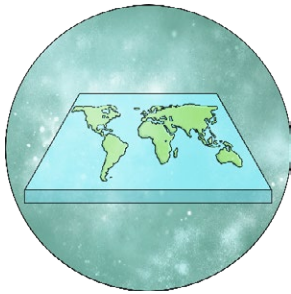


Review the evidence for and against a spherical Earth.

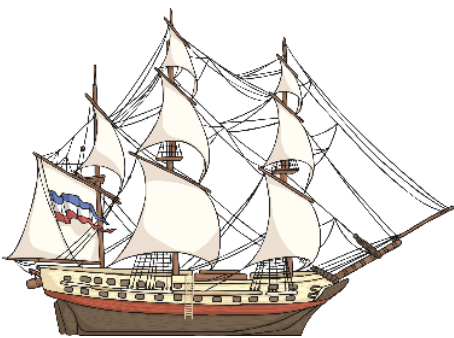
## Evidence for Flat Earth Theory



From ancient times people have believed in a flat Earth based on what it looks like to them.

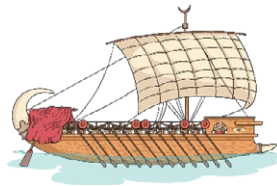


The ancient Chinese believed in a flat Earth.



Some people believe that maps are wrong and that ships sail around the land not the world.

## Evidence for Spherical Earth Theory



Sailors made observations about the position of the Sun and stars.



Ships have sailed all the way around the world.



Planes have flown around the world and never seen the edge.



Observations of ships sailing across the horizon.



Shadows cast by the Earth on the Moon during a lunar eclipse.



Pictures of Earth viewed from Space.



Write a short explanation text which includes evidence for the different theories before writing a conclusion based on what you think about the shape of the Earth. There are key words and sentence starters to help you.

## Shape of the Earth

### Flat Earth Theory

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### Spherical Earth Theory

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### Conclusion

I think the Earth is \_\_\_\_\_. The evidence that the Earth is \_\_\_\_\_ is stronger because

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#### Key Words:

square	
flat	spherical
sphere	observations
evidence	support
change	ideas
refute	circle

#### Sentence starters:

It was believed that \_\_\_\_ Some people think that \_\_\_\_  
In the past \_\_\_\_ The evidence supports the idea \_\_\_\_  
The evidence from \_\_\_\_ shows \_\_\_\_  
In addition, there is evidence \_\_\_\_  
It is clear from the evidence of \_\_\_\_ that \_\_\_\_