

## You're Aboard Spaceship Earth

Someday you may rocket into space. But right now you are aboard a different spaceship. You have been aboard it all your life. This spaceship's name is Earth.

Earth is your home in space. It is home for every person in the world. We are all aboard the same spaceship.

Earth is one of 8 planets that travel around the sun. Every day Earth travels 1,608,000 miles through space. It whizzes along at 67,000 miles an hour. Because we are aboard Earth, we too are whizzing through space.

Like the shuttle crew, we can't make stops. We can't get more of anything. But Spaceship Earth has everything we need to stay alive. It has food. It has air with oxygen. It has water.

Earth has had the same water for billions of years. Plants, animals, and people all use it. Yet Earth doesn't run out of water, because the same water is used over and over again – it is recycled.

All of us need to understand how Earth works. We need to keep it clean and green. We need to remember that Earth is our home in space, that it is really Spaceship Earth.

By Patricia Lauber