

**READ  
LEARN  
INSPIRE**



# Here we are: Notes for living on Planet Earth

This resource was created to accompany the Green-Schools Ireland Global Goals Book Club.

[www.greenschoolsireland.org](http://www.greenschoolsireland.org)





# Global Goal 13: Climate Action



This resource is designed to inspire your classroom with engaging activities that support critical thinking and meaningful discussions centred around the Global Goal of 'Climate Action'.

**Age Group:** Junior Infants - 2nd class

## Resource List

- Here We Are Discussion Questions
- Here We Are Guide to Caring for our planet activity
- My Guide to Living on Planet Earth Activity - Here We Are (Junior infants - 1st class)

## Global Goal Book Club and Global Goal 13: Climate Action

Teaching children about Global Goal 13: Climate Action helps children to understand and be aware of our responsibility towards the environment. By understanding the impacts of climate change, children can develop habits and attitudes that contribute to a sustainable future. Our selected books offer engaging narratives and illustrations that bring the concept of climate action to life. "Greta and the Giants" highlights the power of youth activism. "Save the Arctic" emphasises the importance of preserving delicate ecosystems. "Here We Are: Notes for Living on Planet Earth" instils a sense of wonder and stewardship for our planet. "The Mess That We Made" illustrates the consequences of pollution and the importance of collective action. Lastly, "David Attenborough – Little People, Big Dreams" inspires children by showcasing a life dedicated to environmental protection. These stories educate and empower young people to take action for a healthier planet.

**We would love to see pictures of your bookworms artwork and creations from the activities in our Global Goals Book Club. Please email any photos to [globalcitizenship@eeu.an.taisce.org](mailto:globalcitizenship@eeu.an.taisce.org)**

# Here We Are

## SDG 13

### Here We Are: Notes for Living on Planet Earth

Read or listen to the book 'Here We Are: Notes for Living on Planet Earth' by Oliver Jeffers with your class. The questions below offer a guide for discussion with your class, along with some actions and activities to complete.



**[Listen to the story here.](#)**

### Discussion Questions:

1. What are some of the beautiful features of our planet that you noticed in the book?
2. Why do you think it is important to take care of these natural features?
3. How do you think human activities can affect the animals and plants mentioned in the book?
4. Can you think of any ways humans might be harming the environment?
5. What changes in weather patterns or nature did you learn about from the book?
6. How do you think these changes affect the Earth and the creatures living on it?
7. What are some simple actions you can take to help protect our planet?
8. Why is it important for each of us to do our part in taking care of the environment?
9. How can people from different parts of the world work together to help our planet?
10. Why is it important for all countries to cooperate on climate action?
11. What are some innovative ideas you think could help reduce the negative impact on our environment?
12. How can we use the knowledge about our planet to create a better future for everyone?
13. How did the book make you feel about our planet and its future?
14. What is one thing you learned from the book that you want to share with others about taking care of the Earth?

# OLIVER JEFFERS HERE WE ARE

NOTES FOR LIVING ON PLANET EARTH

## GUIDE TO CARING FOR OUR PLANET

**Our planet is an amazing place.  
It is important that we take care of it.**

Design a guide leaflet to inform other people  
about how they can take care of planet Earth.

Use the leaflet template on the next page to create your guide.

### Ideas to include:

- A catchy title
- Clear, concise information
- Pictures
- Information about pollution and pollution reduction
- Information about recycling and waste management
- Information about the water cycle
- Information about sustainable energy sources

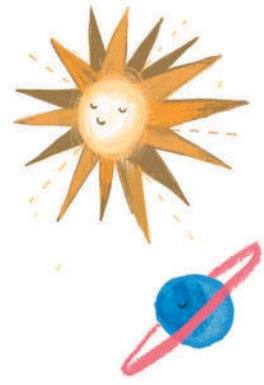
### Curriculum links:

English - writing; ICT - research; Art & Design; Humanities; PSHCE





# OLIVER JEFFERS HERE WE ARE



## GUIDE TO CARING FOR OUR PLANET

Fold this template into three to make a trifold leaflet for your guide.



A large rectangular area with a dashed border, intended for writing notes. It is divided into three horizontal sections by two dotted lines. The word "Fold" is written vertically on the right side of each dotted line to indicate where to fold the paper.

NOTES FOR LIVING ON PLANET EARTH

# OLIVER JEFFERS HERE WE ARE

NOTES FOR LIVING ON PLANET EARTH

## KINDNESS

**People are all different, but all people have feelings.**

**Being kind to others is very important.**

**But what does being kind mean and what does it look like?**

### (A) Class Kindness Game

- Give each member of the class a copy of sheet (B)
- Ask each member of the class to write down all the names of the others in the class. Remind children how many members of the class there are so they can check they have recorded everyone.
- Then the children should write something kind about every other member of the class on their sheet.
- Display all the sheets on the class wall at eye-height and give the children time to walk along the display reading the comments about themselves.

### (B) String Kindness Game

- You need a ball of wool or string to play this game.
- Organise the children to stand or sit in a large circle.
- The teacher starts the game by holding the string, choosing a child at random and saying something kind about them as they pass them the ball of string. The teacher continues to hold the end of the ball of string and unravels it as they pass it over.
- The child that now holds the ball of string repeats the process. Whilst holding on to their point of the string, they unravel the ball and pass it to another child at random. As they do this they say something kind about that child.
- Each child in turn holds the string, unravels and passes the ball to another child, at the same time as saying something kind about that child.
- Once the last child gets the string they will compliment the first person that started the activity (the teacher). The teacher then tells the children to look at how all of the strings are connected and intertwined. This is a good time to reinforce the message that everyone's lives are intertwined in some way and the importance of taking a few minutes each day to be kind to others.
- You could then use the string to make friendship bracelets that the children can keep.

### (C) Design a Poster

Give each member of the class a copy of sheet (C) to design their poster (A3 size).

Ideas for your poster:

- Discuss what the phrase 'kindness costs nothing' means
- Use bright colours
- Use words and pictures

**CURRICULUM LINKS:** PSHCE; English; Art & Design





OLIVER JEFFERS  
HERE WE ARE



KINDNESS (B)



NAMES OF CHILDREN IN THE CLASS	SOMETHING KIND TO SAY ABOUT EACH PERSON
1.	
2.	
3.	
4.	
5.	
6.	
7.	
8.	
9.	
10.	
11.	
12.	
13.	
14.	
15.	
16.	
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28.	
29.	
30.	
31.	
32.	
33.	



OLIVER JEFFERS

# HERE WE ARE



KINDNESS (C)

KINDNESS COSTS  
NOTHING

NOTES FOR LIVING ON PLANET EARTH



# OLIVER JEFFERS HERE WE ARE

NOTES FOR LIVING ON PLANET EARTH

## PLANETS

**Can you name all the planets? What are they like?**

Talk in a class to find out what you already know.

Think about any questions you would like to know. Ask your teacher to help you find the information online or in a book. Then design your own planet.

**CURRICULUM LINKS:** English – speaking & listening, writing; Science

My Planet is called:

It looks like:

Who / What Lives there?

What do they look like?

How do they travel?





# OLIVER JEFFERS

# HERE WE ARE

NOTES FOR LIVING ON PLANET EARTH

## IS IT A STAR?

There are roughly 10,000 stars that are visible to our human eyes. However, only a few hundred stars have been given proper names in the history of astronomy.

Play a guessing game with a friend. Look at all the words in the grid. Can you guess which ones are the names of star constellations? Draw a star next to the names you think will be the true constellation names. Then research each name and tick off the correct answers. The winner is the person who guessed the most correct answers.

Use the grid of names on the next page.

### CURRICULUM LINKS

- *English (KS1) Reading – word reading: read accurately by blending the sounds in words that contain the graphemes taught so far, especially recognizing alternative sounds for graphemes*
- *English (KS2) Reading – word reading: apply their growing knowledge of root words, prefixes and suffixes (morphology and etymology) both to read words aloud and to understand the meaning of new words that they meet*





OLIVER JEFFERS

# HERE WE ARE

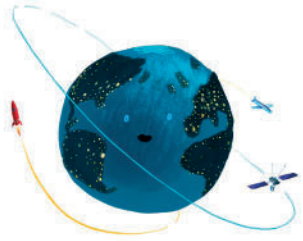


## IS IT A STAR? (B)



<b>Aquila</b>	<b>Hybram</b>	<b>Aquanaut</b>	<b>Leo</b>
<b>Ceptous</b>	<b>Serpens</b>	<b>Cassiopeia</b>	<b>Orkinon</b>
<b>Taurus</b>	<b>Ursula Manne</b>	<b>Eridamus</b>	<b>Taurine</b>
<b>Aries</b>	<b>Draco</b>	<b>Castipea</b>	<b>Leold</b>
<b>Andropool</b>	<b>Orion</b>	<b>Eridicul</b>	<b>Andromeda</b>
<b>Darfo</b>	<b>Cepheus</b>	<b>Ursa Major</b>	<b>Serpulre</b>

NOTES FOR LIVING ON PLANET EARTH















OLIVER JEFFERS

# HERE WE ARE



## IS IT A STAR? (C)



 <b>Aquila</b>	<b>Hybram</b>	<b>Aquanaut</b>	 <b>Leo</b>
<b>Ceptous</b>	 <b>Serpens</b>	 <b>Cassiopeia</b>	<b>Orkinon</b>
 <b>Taurus</b>	<b>Ursula Manne</b>	 <b>Eridamus</b>	<b>Taurine</b>
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<b>Darfo</b>	 <b>Cepheus</b>	 <b>Ursa Major</b>	<b>Serpulre</b>

NOTES FOR LIVING ON PLANET EARTH



# OLIVER JEFFERS HERE WE ARE

NOTES FOR LIVING ON PLANET EARTH

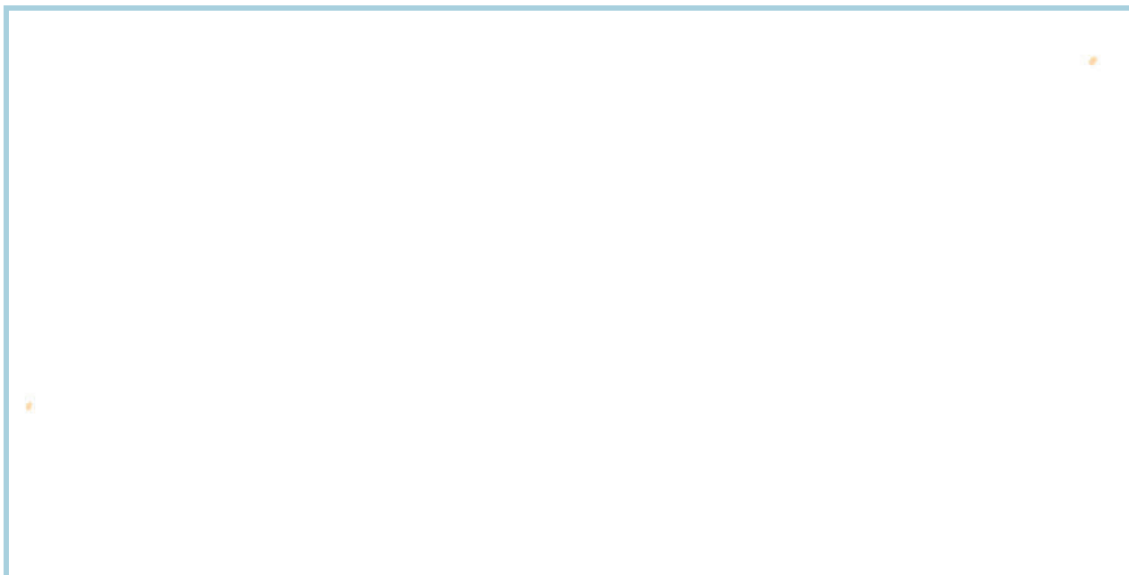
## DAY AND NIGHT

**Research and answer the questions in the boxes.  
You could work by yourself or with a group.**

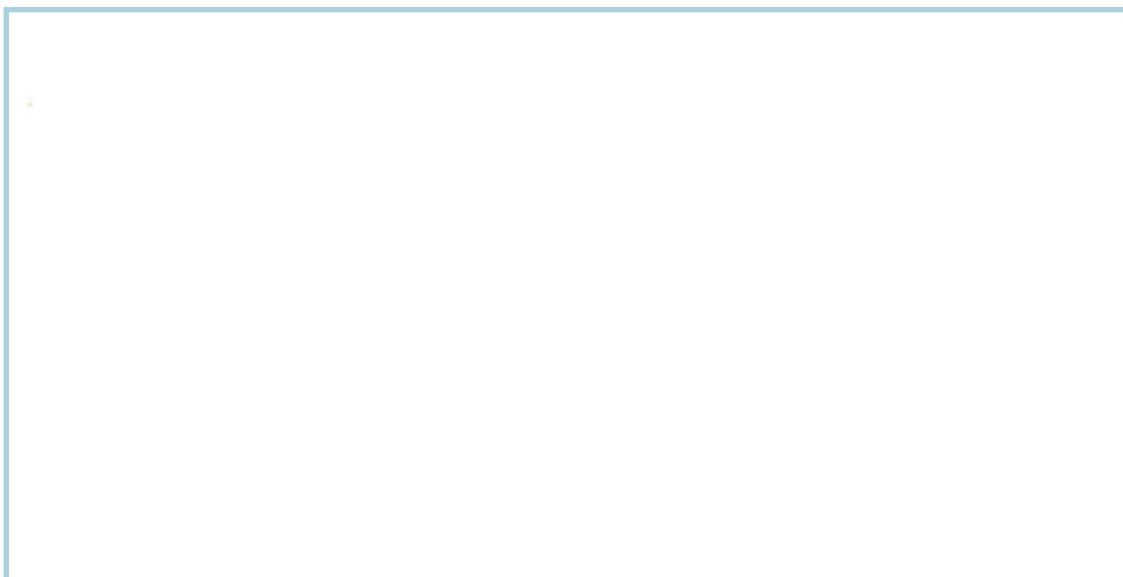
**Then choose one of the boxes and create a short presentation  
that you could show the class.**

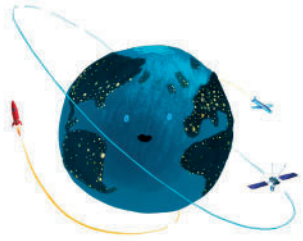
**CURRICULUM LINKS:** *Science; English; Speaking and listening; ICT research*

**1. Why do we have night and day?**



**2. Where in the world experiences a 6-month day and a 6-month night? Why is this?**





# OLIVER JEFFERS HERE WE ARE



## DAY AND NIGHT (B)



3. Why do humans need sleep?

4. Why are some animals nocturnal?



# OLIVER JEFFERS HERE WE ARE

NOTES FOR LIVING ON PLANET EARTH

## MAKE A CONSTELLATION VIEWER

**A constellation is a group of stars that make an imaginary shape in the night sky.**

In different parts of the world, people have made up different shapes out of the same group of stars. It is like a game of connecting the dots. They are often named after mythological characters, people, animals and objects.

Follow the instructions to make your own constellation viewer.

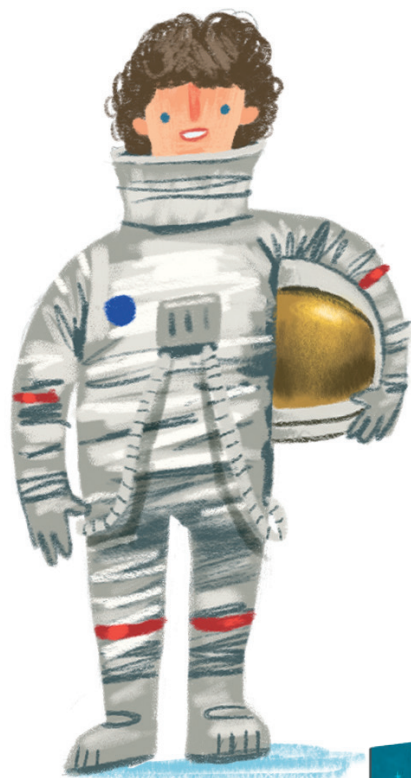
### You will need:

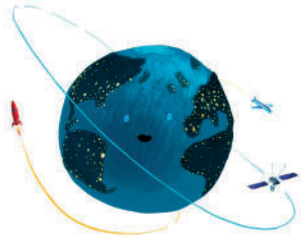
- Kitchen paper, a cardboard tube or thin cardboard
- Black paper or thin card
- Scissors
- A pencil
- A pin
- A rubber band
- Sticky tape
- Glue stick

### CURRICULUM LINKS:

Science; Art & Design;

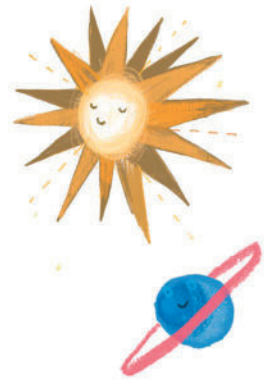
English – reading instruction texts





OLIVER JEFFERS

# HERE WE ARE

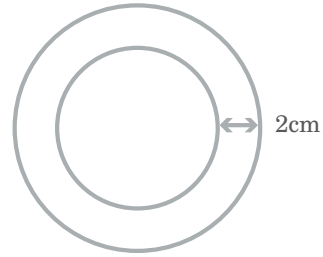


## MAKE A CONSTELLATION VIEWER

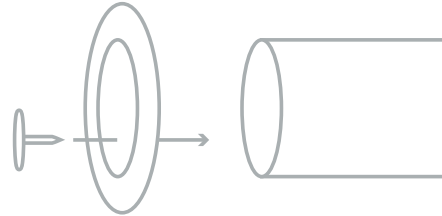
### Instructions:

1. Choose and cut out a constellation circle from the sheet provided.

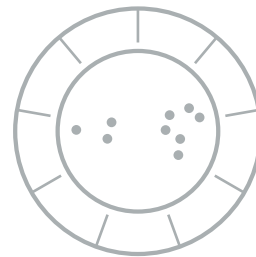
2. Glue your constellation circle onto a piece of black paper that is slightly bigger. Cut around the circle but leave roughly a 2cm border.



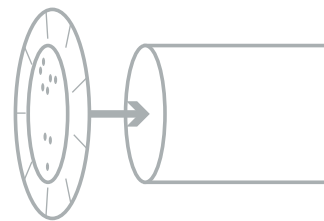
3. Place your circle on top of an old piece of scrap cardboard or fabric and ask a grown-up to help you pierce holes using the pin. The card or fabric will help to avoid scratching the table surface with the pin. Pierce each 'dot' of the constellation pattern.



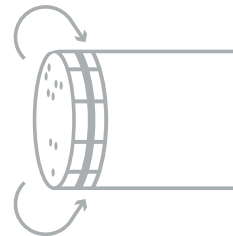
4. Cut slashes around the black border of the circle. These will fold down to help the circle stick to the end of the tube.



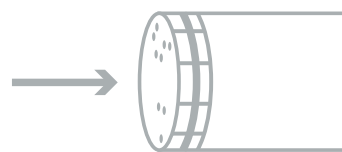
5. Place the circle over the end of a cardboard tube. This could be a kitchen-paper towel tube or a tube made by rolling up and taping some thin cardboard.



6. Fold down the flaps around the edge of the circle and secure with the rubber band and then sticky tape.



7. Look through the viewer at a light source such as a brightly lit window. The light will shine through the pinholes in the shape of your constellation. Never look directly at a light source such as a bulb or the sun as this can harm your eyes.



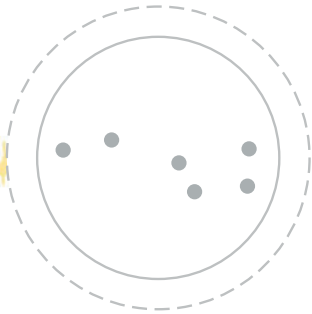




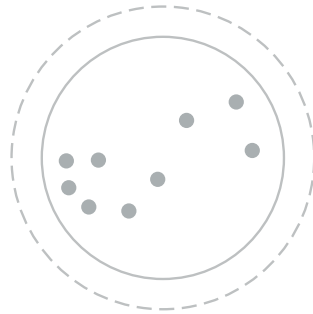
# OLIVER JEFFERS HERE WE ARE



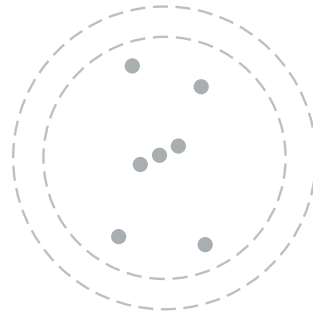
## MAKE A CONSTELLATION VIEWER



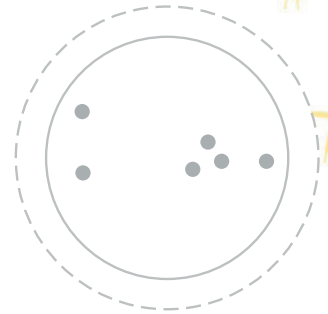
**URSA MAJOR**  
THE GREAT BEAR



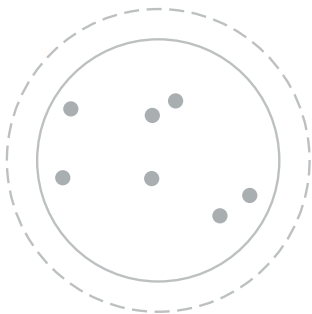
**SCORPIUS**  
THE SCORPION



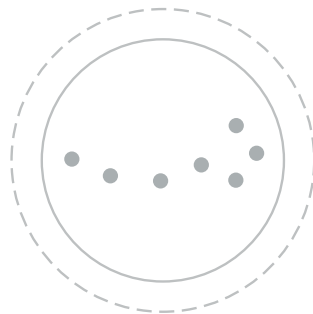
**ORION**  
THE HUNTER



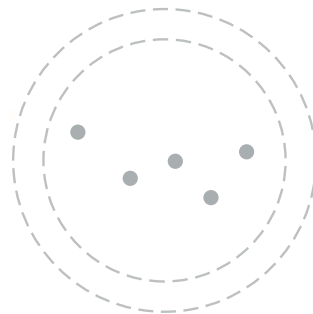
**TAURUS**  
THE BULL



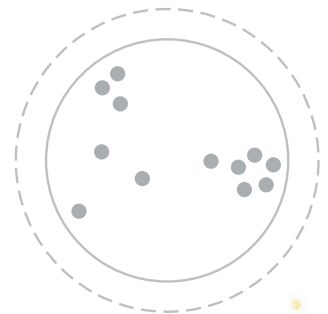
**PEGASUS**  
THE FLYING HORSE



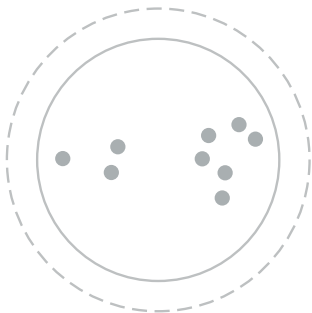
**URSA MINOR**  
THE LITTLE BEAR



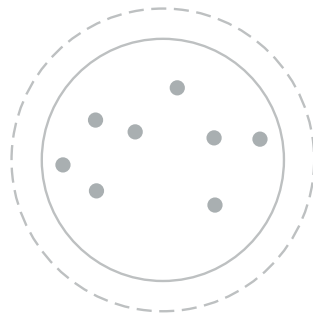
**CASSIOPEIA**  
THE QUEEN



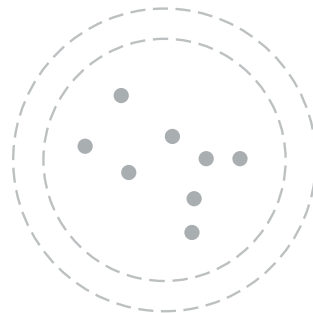
**PISCES**  
THE FISH



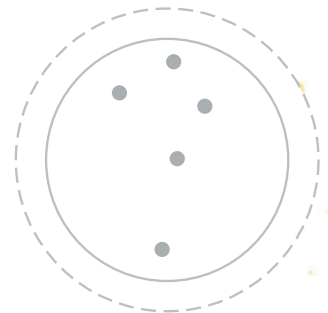
**LEO**  
THE LION



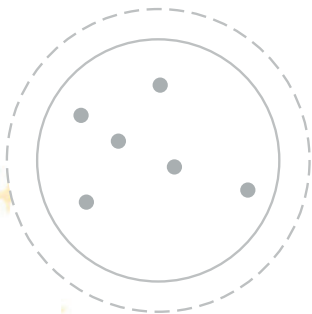
**SAGITTARIUS**  
THE ARCHER



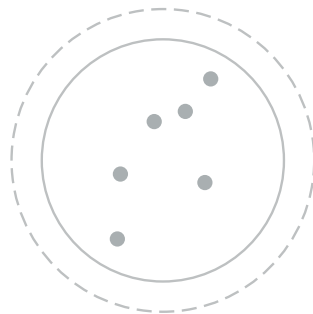
**GEMINI**  
THE TWINS



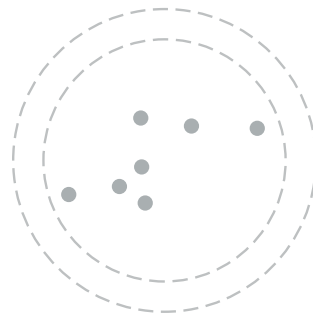
**BOOTES**  
THE HERDSMAN



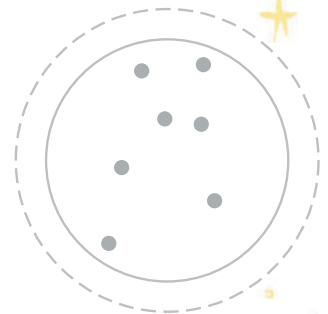
**CYGNUS**  
THE SWAN



**PERSEUS**



**CANIS MAJOR**  
THE BIG DOG



**HERCULES**

# OLIVER JEFFERS HERE WE ARE

NOTES FOR LIVING ON PLANET EARTH

## WELCOME TO EARTH

**Design a poster to welcome someone to planet Earth.**

Make it bright, colourful and packed full of useful information.

**Ideas to help you:**

- What will your main title be?
- Will you have a subheading?
- Will you use bullet points?
- What type of information will you include?
- What pictures will you include?
- How will you give a positive impression of Earth?
- What do you think a visitor would think of our planet?
- How might Earth be different from other planets?

**Design your poster on the next page.**





OLIVER JEFFERS  
HERE WE ARE



WELCOME TO EARTH



A large, empty rectangular box with rounded corners, intended for writing notes.

NOTES FOR LIVING ON PLANET EARTH

# OLIVER JEFFERS HERE WE ARE

NOTES FOR LIVING ON PLANET EARTH

## SURVIVAL

**Talk about which things humans need to survive  
and which things we like or want.**

Work in a group to complete the table. Then choose one thing and create a short presentation to explain why humans need it to survive.

**CURRICULUM LINKS:** *English – speaking and listening; Science*

ITEM	NEED OR WANT?	NOTES
Food		
Toys		
Television		
Water		
Shelter		
Sofa		
Doctors		
Clothes		
Friends		
Family		
Pets		
Garden		
Football		
School		
Books		
Bike		
Bed		
Car		

NOTES FOR LIVING ON PLANET EARTH



# OLIVER JEFFERS HERE WE ARE



## SURVIVAL



### MY PRESENTATION

**Title:** .....

**Notes:** .....

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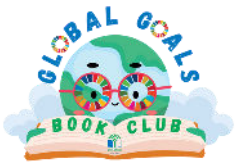
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Illustration © Oliver Jeffers 2017



# Here We Are: Notes for living on Planet Earth by Oliver Jeffers

My Guide to living on Planet Earth

13 CLIMATE ACTION



An Alien from an other planet has landed on Planet Earth. Create a welcome pack and a guide to looking after Planet Earth...you can draw helpful pictures and instructions as they might not speak our language!



## Welcome to Planet Earth....