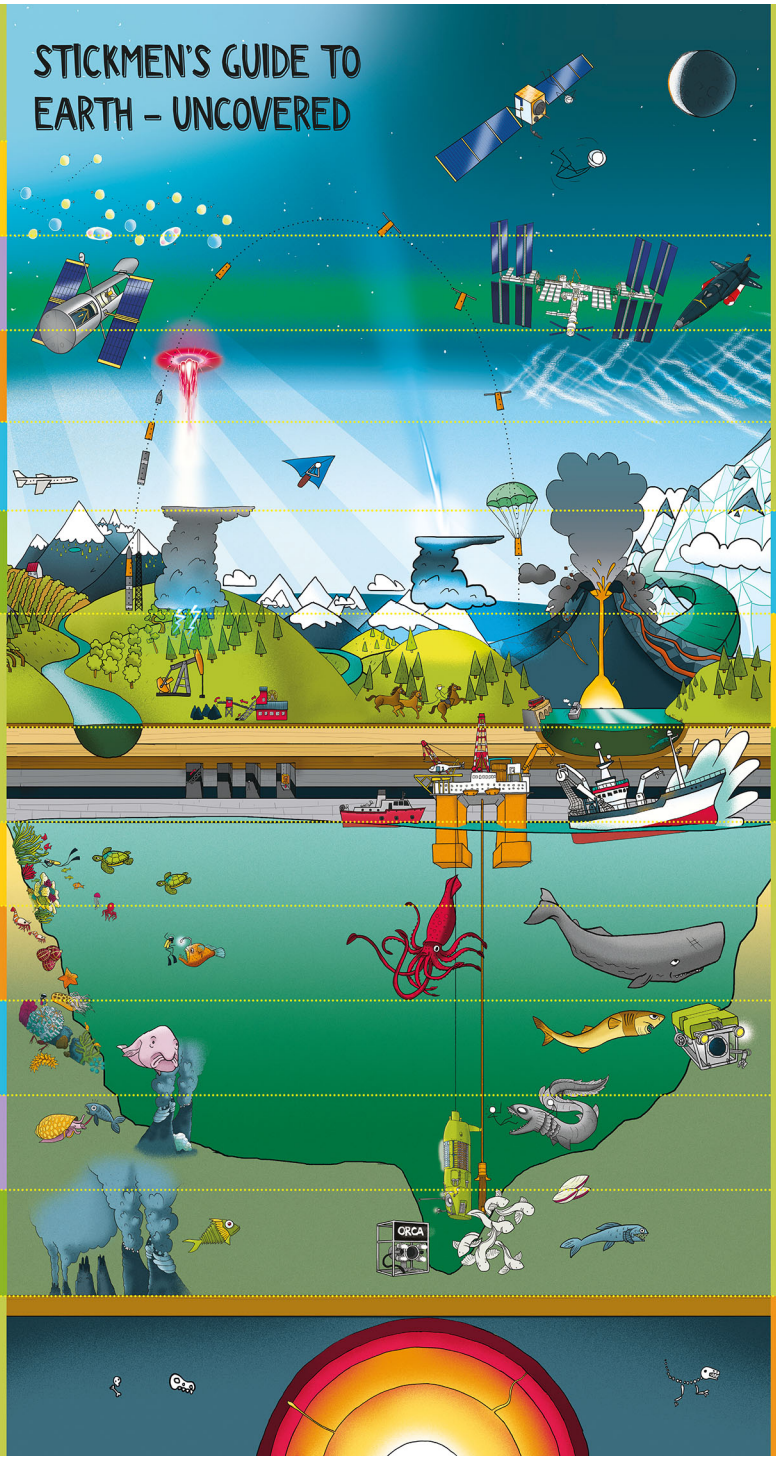
STICKMEN'S GUIDE TO EARTH – UNCOVERED



The Sky

Exosphere
From around 375 miles (600 km)
Pressure is extremely low and gases are thin, with some escaping into space. Most satellites orbit Earth here.

Thermosphere
53 to 375 miles (85–600 km)
Gases are still thin, pressure is low, and the temperature increases with height. Bright colored lights pulsate.

Mesosphere
30 to 53 miles (50–85 km)
Temperatures are cold. Meteors shoot through and burn up. The highest clouds put on a light show over the poles.

Stratosphere
Minimum 4 to 30 miles (6–50 km)
The tips of Earth's highest clouds reach here. A layer of ozone gases protects Earth from the Sun's harmful rays.

Troposphere
0 to 12 miles (0–20 km) maximum
We can breathe oxygen and plants use carbon dioxide to grow. The boundary with the stratosphere is variable.

Oceans

The Sunlight Zone
From the sunny surface to about 660 feet (200 m) deep–the continental shelf slopes down gently at this level

The Twilight Zone
From 660 feet (200 m) to 3,300 feet (1,000 m), with faint light–the continental slope dips deep into the ocean

The Midnight Zone
From 3,300 feet (1,000 m) to 13,100 feet (4,000 m), where creatures adapt to darkness and heavy water pressure

The Abyss
From 13,100 feet (4,000 m) to 19,700 feet (6,000 m)–the continental rise reaches gently up from the abyssal floor

The Ocean's Trenches
From 19,700 feet (6,000 m) to 36,100 feet (11,000 m), where steep, narrow valleys plunge down

Mountains and Valleys

Mountaintops
Where winters are cold, snow and ice reach far down the mountains. In warm parts of the world, snow and ice give way to alpine trees and plants.

Plains
Down on the plains, vast grasslands stretch out in both cool and hot climates. Here, wild animals roam and farmers herd cattle and grow cereals.

Under the Crust
Below the plains, rivers cut deep down into the rock. Even deeper, Earth shakes and hot volcanic magma pushes up through the crust.

Earth's Core

At the center of Earth, a soft, searing-hot outer core wraps around the hard inner core. Both parts of the core are made mostly of metal.