



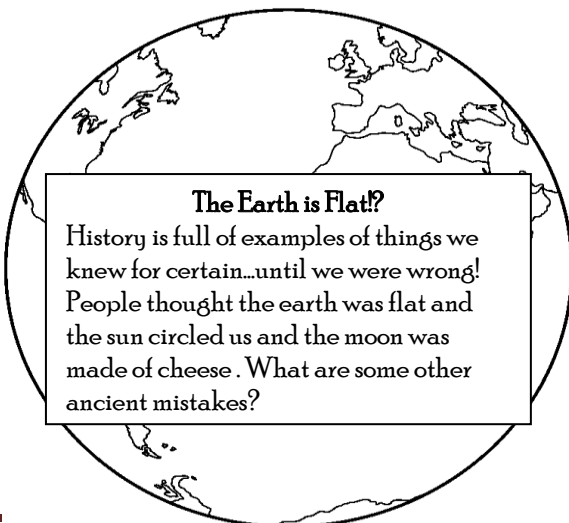
## What We Don't Know

What don't you know? That's a harder question than it seems because we usually think about things we do know. Many of us don't know what we don't know. Or we happily don't know, but we assume somebody does. Maybe we don't know how a car actually turns gas into motion, but we know a mechanic does. So we trust them to fix it. But there are many, many big things in the world that we (this means everybody) still don't know. Here are a few of the big questions that have yet to be fully figured out. There are a lot of good ideas, but nobody is certain. Pick one topic to explore.

- What is the universe made of? Here's a problem. The stuff we see in our universe, the atoms and cells, bodies and rocks, only accounts for 5% its mass. The other 95% is a mystery. Dark Matter? Dark Energy? What the heck is out there?
- How did life really start? So we know about evolution. But how did the first life, the first cell, the first spark, happen? A soupy mess of chemicals on a volcano or a meteor?
- Are we alone in the universe? Is there somebody else out there? We know now that there are planets out there that could support life. But did it happen?
- What makes us human? We share 99% of our DNA with a chimpanzee. In fact, 60% of our DNA is the same as a fruit fly. So what makes us human (and so special)? iPods and Google?
- What is consciousness? We know that we know we know (or don't). We can watch our own thinking, contemplate our own awareness. How does this happen? What makes us aware? Do other animals have consciousness like we do?
- Why do we dream? There are lots of theories, but nobody is yet certain.
- What's at the bottom of the ocean? We've only explored 5% of it. What's going on in the other 95%?
- Can we time travel? Einstein showed us that time is relative and astronauts experience slight time shifts which, at high speeds, could lead to travel to the future. What will this mean?

Be humble. What don't you know but wish you did:

-change tire, juggle, pick up girls?



### The Earth is Flat!

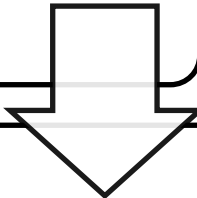
History is full of examples of things we knew for certain...until we were wrong! People thought the earth was flat and the sun circled us and the moon was made of cheese. What are some other ancient mistakes?

→ Pick one mystery to delve into. Use the internet or an information guide from a teacher or parent to look at the current research on this topic. What are the experts saying? Where do they disagree? What needs to be done to solve this mystery? What will it mean once it is solved? What do you think? Fill out the organizer on the next page and prepare a short presentation for the class.

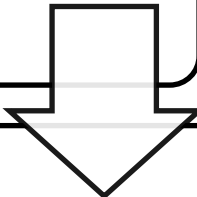
What We Don't Know Contemplation

My Mystery:

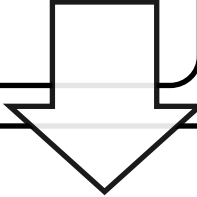
Explain the mystery:



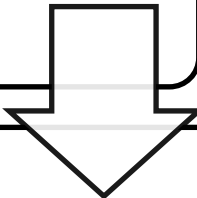
What leading experts say:



Disagreements:



What is being done to figure it out:



What I think: