



Lesson 5

FOUR REALMS OF THE EARTH

NOTES:

- **Lithosphere, Hydrosphere, Atmosphere and Biosphere** are the four realms of the earth.
- **The first life on the earth originated in water.**
- **The outer solid layer of the earth is called crust or lithosphere (the realm of land).**
- Vast land masses rising above the sea level are called **Continents**.
- The highest point on the earth's surface is **Mount Everest** in the Himalayas. It is 8,848 meters high above the sea level.
- There are 7 continents in the world namely **Asia, Europe, Africa, North America, South America, Australia and Antarctica**.
- Asia is the largest continent in the world.
- Europe and Asia are collectively known as **Eurasia**.
- Australia is the smallest continent.
- Antarctica is known as the white continent.
- **Mountains, plateaus and plains** are called the Major Landforms of the earth.
- **Water bodies like oceans, seas, lakes and rivers are formed on the earth's surface. These water bodies are collectively known as hydrosphere (the realm of water).**
- The four oceans on the earth's surface are **the Pacific Ocean, the Atlantic Ocean, the Indian Ocean and the Arctic Ocean**.
- The Pacific Ocean is the largest ocean in the world.
- The blanket of air surrounding the earth is called **Atmosphere** (the realm of air).
- Nitrogen is the most abundant gas.
- Oxygen is the gas which we inhale whereas carbon-dioxide is the gas which we exhale.
- The narrow zone on the earth's surface, where life exists, is called **Biosphere**. Land, water and air meets in this narrow zone.
- Life forms are classified into **Plant kingdom** and **Animal kingdom**.