

THERMOSPHERE

- Top layer before space
- Very hot because it absorbs lots of solar energy
- Auroras (northern/southern lights) happen here
- Satellites orbit the Earth in this layer
- International Space Station is in the middle of the Thermosphere.

MESOSPHERE

- Middle layer
- Where meteors burn up
- Very cold – the coldest layer
- Hardly any air to breathe

STRATOSPHERE

- Above the troposphere
- Jets often fly here
- Contains the ozone layer (which protects us from UV rays)
- Weather balloons
- Temperature increases with height

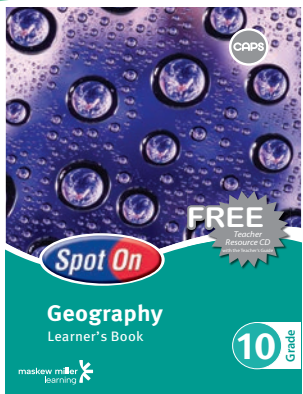
TROPOSPHERE

- Closest to the Earth's surface
- Gets colder as you go higher
- Where weather happens (clouds, rain, storms)
- Contains most of the air we breathe
- Flight space

How HIGH?

WITHOUT THE ATMOSPHERE,
LIFE ON EARTH WOULDN'T BE POSSIBLE

The atmosphere is the layer of gases that surrounds the Earth and acts as a sunscreen. It protects us from harmful rays from the Sun, helps keep the planet warm, and gives us the oxygen we need to breathe.



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