

# The Earth, in Verse

Claudia Lewis's "Three Skies" is a description of the Earth's sky and atmosphere, rewritten as a poem. In this activity, you will read a paragraph about the structure of the Earth. Using Claudia's poem as your inspiration, you will write your own poem called "The Earth, in Verse."

**Directions:** Read the paragraph and use the information to write a poem in the space below about the Earth.

The Earth is made up of three layers: the crust, the mantle, and the core. The surface that we stand on rests on the crust, the thinnest layer of the three. The crust, mostly made of granite and a volcanic rock called basalt, is broken into plates that float on the softer mantle below. The middle layer of the Earth, the mantle, is the thickest and made of gooey, melted rock that moves slowly and shifts the plates of the crust above. In the center of the Earth is the core, a ball of extremely hot metals squeezed together so tightly that they only have space to vibrate. The core can reach temperatures hotter than the surface of the sun!

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**This verse is about the crust.**

- What do we see from the surface?
- What happens beneath our feet?

**This verse is about the mantle.**

- How is it different from the other layers?
- How does it affect them?

**This verse is about the core.**

- What would you find if you tunneled to the center of the Earth?
- Write a final line about the wonders of the Earth and its layers.