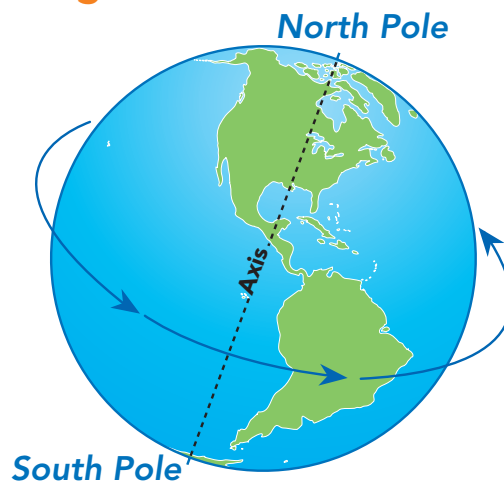




Globes and Hemispheres

As you know, Earth is a large, round planet. To see all of Earth, you would have to orbit it in a spacecraft! An easier way to see Earth is to look at a small model called a globe.

A globe shows Earth's four oceans and seven continents. A globe also shows how Earth turns on an imaginary centre line called an **axis**. At the ends of this line are the North and South poles. Pole means "end." These poles help you find directions on Earth. North is toward the North Pole, and south is toward the South Pole.



Another imaginary line on a globe is called the **equator**. The equator runs around the centre of Earth and divides it into two halves called **hemispheres**. The northern half is called the Northern Hemisphere, and the southern half is called the Southern Hemisphere.

Still another imaginary line divides Earth into the Eastern and Western hemispheres. This line is called the **Prime Meridian**. This line runs from the North Pole to the South Pole.





Northern Hemisphere



Southern Hemisphere



Western Hemisphere



Eastern Hemisphere



map reader's Tip

Earth turns, or rotates, on its axis from west to east. That is why the sun rises in the east and sets in the west.

Here are four views of a globe showing the four hemispheres. Use the pictures on these pages to answer these questions.

1. How many hemispheres does Earth have? _____
2. What is the hemisphere nearest the South Pole? _____
3. What line divides the Eastern and Western hemispheres? _____
4. In which direction is the North Pole from the equator? _____
5. What line divides the Northern and Southern hemispheres? _____
6. What is Earth's axis? _____
7. Name one continent in the Northern Hemisphere. _____
8. Name one continent in the Eastern Hemisphere. _____