

# Elements

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ABOUT THE COVER:  
“We all live on this planet which we have mistakenly chosen to call Earth (Anonymous).”

In this view of Earth from the Moon, it is clear that the Earth is indeed a “water planet”. Had early civilizations had such a view, it is likely that they would have selected a name other than “earth” to describe their home. In this inaugural issue of *Elements* the important role that water plays in the evolution of the Earth and planetary systems is summarized in articles by leading scientists in the Earth sciences.

Photo NASA/JPL



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