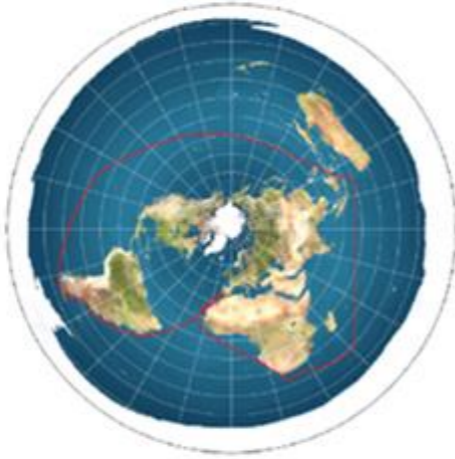


Some People's Opinion



Some people think that explorers who have sailed to all the countries of the World, travelling in one direction, have simply gone round in a circle. They also say that if we sail away south from the North Pole, and keep going in a straight line, we will always end up at the South Pole (which is true). They use this evidence to reason that this must mean the North Pole is at the centre of the Earth and the South Pole must reach all the way around the edge of the ocean.

Star Constellations



At night, we can see billions of stars, but some of the brightest ones seem to form patterns. Humans have imagined pictures that fit some of the patterns and have named them – these are the constellations. Not everyone can see the same constellations, though. People who live in the Northern half of the World see one set of constellations, and the people in the Southern hemisphere see a different set of stars.

Explorers and Adventurers



Ever since ships were built big and strong enough to survive very long journeys, explorers and adventurers have been able to sail off to visit other countries. Eventually, after always sailing in the **same direction**, some were able to end up back home, without ever having to turn back.

The picture shows the journeys of two explorers, Ferdinand Magellan in 1519 and Juan Elcano in 1522

Aristotle 384 – 322 BC



Ship sailing towards horizon.mp4

I was a Greek philosopher (someone who thought a lot about the world around us), and I noticed something strange when ships sailed away from my home town by the sea. Instead of just getting smaller and smaller, as they sailed away, their hulls (the bottom part) seemed to sink into the sea! The further away they got, the more of the ship that seemed to disappear, with the top part of the sails vanishing last. I knew that they hadn't really sunk though, because the ships came back again!