

ESTIMATING AREAS

OCEAN AREA

The total area of the Earth's surface is about 197 million square miles.

1. What in your town/city would measure approximately 1 square mile?
2. What percent of the Earth's surface is covered by each of these major oceans?
3. What percent is not covered by these major oceans?

Pacific Ocean = about 63.8 million square miles
Atlantic Ocean = about 31.8 million square miles
Indian Ocean = about 28.4 million square miles
Arctic Ocean = about 5.4 million square miles

4. Why are the measurements of the ocean estimates rather than exact amounts?

[Source: Connecticut Mastery Test Third Generation Mathematics Handbook, Part 2
Draft, State of Connecticut 2000]