



1. Earth

Earth is the third planet from the sun and is mainly composed of rock and metal. It is a sphere that rotates on its axis counterclockwise, as viewed from above the North Pole, while also orbiting the sun. Earth, which contains several features that make it hospitable, is the only known planet with life.



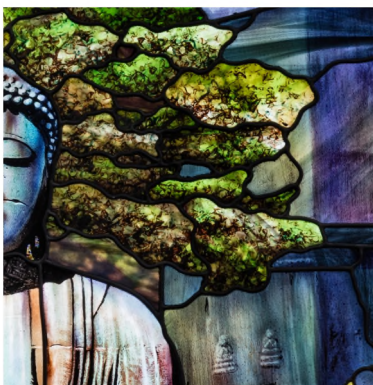
2. Woolly Mammoth

The woolly mammoth (*Mammuthus primigenius*) lived during the Pleistocene era and roamed across the European continent, Siberia, and North America—a vast biome sometimes called the mammoth steppe. Because of this extensive range during the Last Glacial Maximum, remains of many mammoths have been found well-preserved after thousands of years in the ice and snow of northern regions.



3. Whales and Dolphins

These large marine mammals, members of the Cetacea infraorder, represent a major leap in evolution. Whales, dolphins, and porpoises are descended from terrestrial (land) mammals; they possess internal bodily structures indicating that their ancestors had external hind limbs. Among their adaptations to aquatic life, cetaceans developed streamlined bodies, horizontal tails, and a layer of blubber to maintain body heat.



4. Cedars of Lebanon

These cedars (*Cedrus libani*) are a species of evergreen conifer found in the mountains around the eastern Mediterranean in Lebanon, Syria, and Turkey. A valuable resource since ancient times, the Cedars of Lebanon have an indelible place in the heritage of the Levant.



5. Laozi

Laozi ("Old Master") was a legendary sage and writer who probably lived in China during the sixth century BCE. Laozi is believed to be the founder of Taoism and the author of *Tao-Te-Ching* ("Book of the Way"), a foundational text for philosophical and religious Taoism. Laozi taught that human beings should find harmony with the universe.



6. Jainism

Jainism is one of the three most ancient religions in India, along with Hinduism and Buddhism. Adjacent to the text is the symbol for ahimsa: a hand with a dharmachakra wheel in the palm, a symbol for the quest for truth and non-violence needed to achieve moksha (spiritual liberation). Jainism advocates peacefulness and respect toward all living things.



7. *Angel Falls*

Angel Falls (Pemón: Kerepakupai Merú) of southeastern Venezuela is the highest uninterrupted waterfall in the world. Dropping over the edge of Auyán-Tepuí ("Devil's Mountain"), a flat-topped plateau surrounded by jungle, the falls plunge 807 meters (2,648 ft). They then transform into a sloping cascade, followed by rapids and another plunge—for a total height of 979 meters (3,212 ft).



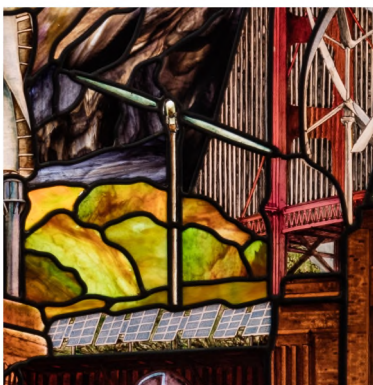
8. *Marie Tharp's Atlantic Ocean Floor Map*

The tatters at the bottom of the explorers' gallery outline a physiographic chart of the Atlantic Ocean's seafloor between Portugal and the Americas. The map shows mountain ranges and valleys on the ocean floor.



9. *George Washington Carver*

George Washington Carver (c. 1860s – 1943) was an African American botanist and environmentalist. He worked to popularize peanuts, sweet potatoes, and other crops to replace cotton.



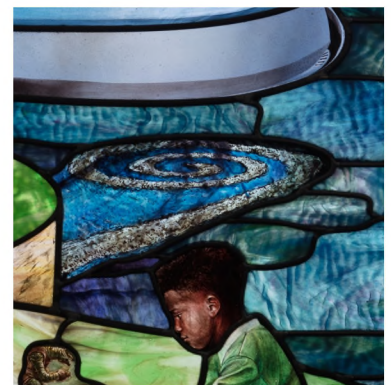
10. *Whale-Inspired Windmill*

There are numerous designs for wind turbines, each trying to be more efficient and productive than the last, like this design for windmill blades modeled after the fins of a whale. The French engineer Georges Jean Marie Darrieus (1888 – 1979) patented this unique style of vertical axis wind turbine in 1931.



11. *Chipko Movement Conservationists*

Launched in 1972, members of the Chipko Movement work to save India's forests and raise awareness of environmental degradation.



12. *Spiral Jetty*

This unique earthwork sculpture was created in April 1970 by Robert Smithson (1938 – 1973). It is located on the northeastern shore of the Great Salt Lake in Utah.