

Comparing Apples and... Earth?

Just how much of

the earth's

surface

is

needed

for growing

food for a world

of people?

1) Slice an apple into fourths.

Set aside three of the fourths, as they represent water on the Earth's surface.

2) Cut the remaining slice in half.

Set aside one of the halves as uninhabited deserts, swamps and Arctic areas.

3) Divide the remaining piece into fourths.

Set aside three of the pieces for land that is too rocky, wet, hot, or poor for crop production.

4) The remaining piece is $\frac{1}{32}$ nd of the original apple. Peel this section.

The peel represents the thin layer of soil that is available for producing all of the world's food crops.

Adapted from materials by the Soil Conservation Service



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