



## Enough room for you ?

The population of the world reached 6 billion on 12<sup>th</sup> Sept 2000 and is expected to reach 10 billion by 2100. The question is: **‘Will there be room for everyone?’** The total land area of the world is approximately 135 million square kilometers.

**Task A** How much space does a single person need? Discuss and perhaps experiment, come up with an answer giving reasons for your decision. Now work out how much space 1 million people would need using your answer.

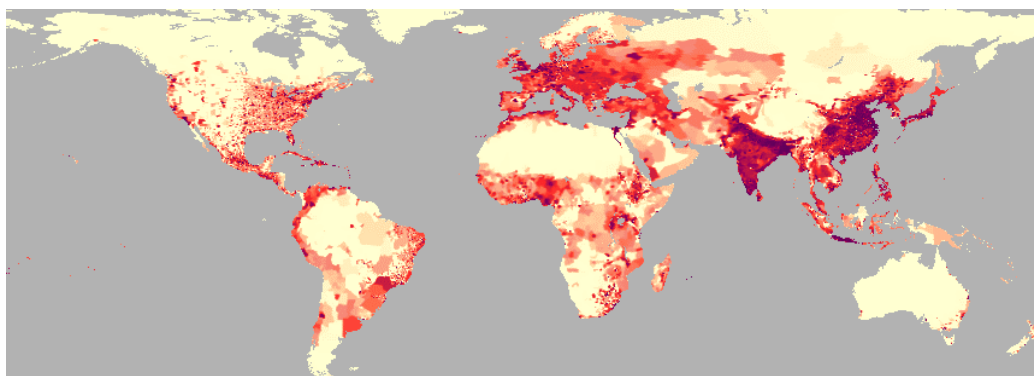
**Task B** The total land area 135,000,000 divided by 6,000,000,000 is 0.0225 square kilometers or 22,500 square metres. That’s about 2 ¼ football pitches each. Plenty of room you might say, but some parts of the world are fairly undesirable places to live. For example Antarctica takes up about 14 million square kilometers. Can you think of some other places that are unsuitable to live in?

Also as well as actual space for us we need to have room to grow some food for ourselves, to dispose of our rubbish etc. Visit the [Skelton Grange](#) website to find out more about your **ecological footprint**, this is the amount of land you use to live.

**Task C** Use the following data, which gives you the area and population of several countries to compare the space people have to live in. You can divide the area by the population to get the population density (The number of people per square kilometre) and then draw a bar chart of your results. To find data for more countries visit the [CIA factbook](#) on the web

Country	Land area (square km)	Population (July 2000)
Australia	7,617,930	19,169,083
China	9,326,410	1,261,832,482
France	545,630	59,329,691
India	2,973,190	1,014,003,817
Italy	294,020	57,634,327
Monaco	2	31,693
Norway	307,860	4,481,162
Spain	499,542	39,996,671
South Africa	1,219,912	43,421,021
United Kingdom	241,590	59,511,464

A map showing how the world’s population is spread out.



This resource is from the CensusAtSchool project at [www.censusatschool.ntu.ac.uk](http://www.censusatschool.ntu.ac.uk)