



Super Earths

By Derek Axtman



Our Planet's Future

Earth, a beautiful blue gem in this galaxy. It is perfect for supporting life, and is home to countless creatures, big and small. It also happens to be our home. However, it's being damaged by pollution, and is overpopulated. But, Earth may not be the only world out there that we could live on.



What is a super earth?

A super Earth is a planet that is like our Earth, being inhabitable but much larger. An Example would be Proxima b, an exoplanet that is theorized to be inhabitable for humans, and is the closest to our world.





Why could a super earth be better?

A super earth would be larger than our world, and it would have a stronger gravity. This would make it have more atmosphere, better protecting it from radiation in space, and keeping temperatures stable. Also, a stronger gravitational pull would make mountains and hills flatten out faster, and make it more of an island planet, which would be best for having diverse life and species.

Rockets on a super earth

While super earths could be great places to live, they would also be very difficult to leave. With such strong gravity, it would take many times the fuel and rocket power to leave the atmosphere than on our world. Researchers estimate that if alien life did exist on these worlds, they could be trapped on them, since the cost of getting a rocket into orbit would be immense.



What about our Earth?

While Earth may be the perfect world for us, it is being damaged immensely. Pollution, exhaustion of resources, wars, overpopulation, it all is harming the world. While we may be able to one day live on other worlds, we still need to work on saving our home. It could someday become uninhabitable, and force us to leave, or even die off.





The End

All in all, a super earth could be an amazing place to go one day, an entire world untouched by humans, like how it was before we began to expand on our world. And if we can't save our home by then, we may be able to save it later. We must focus on making sure our home stays alive, throwing away this one in a million million world would be a terrible catastrophe.