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Around the World

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# ■Oral Introduction

Do you know how large the earth is? In the 1700s, lots of people wanted to know the size of our planet. Two scientists traveled to South America in 1735 to measure one part of the world. They walked through jungles, deserts, and over high mountains. It took them ten years, but another group had made it before them. This shows us how curious people were about the earth in the 18th century. Until that time, there were many unusual ideas about the world and its shape. Have you heard any of them? For example, what did many people believe about the earth until the 1500s? Did they think it was round? We'll find out the answer in Part 1 of this story.

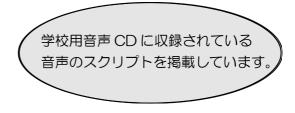
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# ■Part 1 Oral Introduction

Have you ever heard the name Ferdinand Magellan? He did something great in history. What was it? Thanks to him, scientists such as Isaac Newton, Johannes Kepler, and Galileo could discover important things about our planet. They found out more about the shape of our planet. They told us much about our universe, too. This was all thanks to Magellan's efforts.

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■Part 1 Words flat direction century expedition sail(ed) Spain Pacific ocean Africa voyage crew



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## ■Part1 本文(普通読み)

For most of human history, people thought the world flat. They thought, "If you travel in a straight line, you will come to the end of the world." Then, about 2,000 years ago, some people thought "the earth is round." This meant "If you travel in one direction, you will come back to the starting point."

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