The basic geography of Earth.

Earth’s surface is....

What is the total surface area of planet earth?

From - http://chartsbin.com/view/wwu
“Total surface area of earth: 510,072,000 sq km”

Often split into -
“Total water surface area: 70.8% (361,132,000 sq km)
Total land surface area: 29.2% (148,940,000 sq km)”

Land can be described as -
“The percentages of earth's land surface can be divided into different types: 20% covered by snow land, 20% mountains, 20% dry land, 30% good land that can be farmed, 10% land doesn't have topsoil.”

Noting that -
20% of land is “Covered by snow land”, in other words, ice.
29.788,205 sq km. 5.84%.

Therefore,
Earth’s surface is -

70.8% Water.
23.36% Land.
5.84% Ice.

Which can be rounded to easily remembered figures of -
71% Water.
24% Land.
5% Ice.
Relative sizes of countries that make up Earth’s land surface.

From -
“The area of Australia is 7 682300 square kilometres. Australia is about the size of the mainland United States excluding Alaska, and approximately 24 times the size of the British Isles.”

From -
“Including all the islands and ice shelves, Antarctica is nearly twice the size of Australia, covering 13,661,000 km².”
In addition to the well-known social issues of illiteracy and illiteracy, there are also other concepts such as "inaccessibility", "insufficient geographical knowledge", and "insufficient information".

A survey with American schoolchildren led them to guess the population and land area of their country. Not entirely unexpected, but still rather unsettling, the majority chose "2-3 billion" and "1/10 of the world's population", respectively.

Even with Asian and European college students, geographical estimates were often off by factors of 2-3. This is partly due to the highly distorted nature of the predominantly used mapping projections (such as Mercator).

A particularly extreme example is the worldwide misunderstanding of the true size of Africa. This single image tries to embody the massive scale, which is larger than the USA, China, India, Japan and all of Europe... combined!
The relative sizes of the oceans that make up Earth’s water surface.

From -

“The planet Earth is a planet of oceans. The total area of the Earth is approximately 510 million square kilometers and the oceans cover about 71 percent of the Earth's surface, which is about 360 million square kilometers.

There are a total of 5 oceans, and they are the Arctic, Pacific, Atlantic, Indian, and the Antarctic Ocean. Out of these five, there are three major oceans, the Atlantic, Pacific, and the Indian Ocean. They account for 90 percent of the area covered by oceans. The Pacific Ocean is the largest of oceans, its area is 181 million square kilometers, which covers nearly a third of the Earth's surface. The Atlantic Ocean is the second largest, covering 94 million square kilometers, and the Indian Ocean is the third largest, covering about 74 million square kilometers.

The oceans' tremendous presence causes it to have a huge effect on the planet and our civilization. It is greatly responsible for the climate of the Earth. It regulates air temperature and supplies moisture for rainfall. The ocean also provides us with food, energy, minerals, and a cheap method of transportation. Without the oceans, the Earth wouldn't be able to sustain life.”

It seemed reasonable in 1997 to state that

**the oceans regulate earth’s air temperature.**

https://www.google.co.uk/intl/en_uk/earth/

Google Earth, can be used to display the true size of the Pacific ocean, when considering the actual geographic location of the ocean, and the Antarctic ocean.
The true size of the Pacific, and part of the Antarctic ocean....

Almost 50% of the earth’s surface is this one body of water alone.

The Pacific ocean is only one of the five main oceans.
  BUT, all five oceans are interconnected.
They could, and probably should be thought of as one ocean.
  Where does one ocean end and the next start?
    Any division is purely arbitrary.
    That said, how big are the other oceans?
Google Earth shows the size of the Atlantic ocean is.
How big is the Indian ocean?
By comparison, the Arctic ocean is rather small. Even in summer. It is almost all ice in winter.
In regards of the Pacific, Atlantic, and Indian oceans, where do they stop, and where does the Antarctic ocean start?

Looking directly at the South Pole with google earth it seems obvious that, these four oceans are one ocean.

Geographically speaking earth is most accurately described as a water planet.
What is the surface temperature of the oceans?

From -
http://www.climate4you.com/SeaTemperatures.htm#Recent%20sea%20surface%20temperature

NOAA/NWS/NCEP/EMC Marine Modeling and Analysis Branch

RTG_SST Analysis (0.5 deg X 0.5 deg) for 13 Jun 2015

Sea surface temperatures 13 June 2015 (degrees C). White areas represents land areas. Map source: NCEP. Technical notes on the production of the map are available here. Please use this link if you want to see the original figure or want to check for a more recent update than shown above.

Does it appear that average sea surface temperature is about 15 degrees Celsius?

It should be noted that by volume, the heat capacity of water is about a thousand times that of air. It takes 1000 times the amount of energy to raise (or lower) a cubic meter of water by 1 degree Celsius as it does to raise (or lower) the temperature by 1 degree Celsius of a cubic meter of air.

If the difference in the volumes of earth’s atmosphere and oceans is taken into account, the oceans have about 350 times the heat capacity of the atmosphere.
Do the oceans regulate earth’s surface temperature?

From -
http://i53.photobucket.com/albums/g43/DerekJohn_photos/stuff/Dailywaterjacketsized.jpg

When a planet is insulated (by increasing the heat capacity of the surface) the diurnal range is greatly reduced AND the average temperature is increased.

Without an atmosphere earth would not have any oceans. The moon does not have any oceans. Oceans greatly increase the heat capacity of earth’s surface, and insulate it with dramatic affect. An effect that is currently ignored, and dismissed by greenhouse effect “theory”.