

Read About Oceans, Lakes and Rivers

WHERE CAN WE FIND WATER?

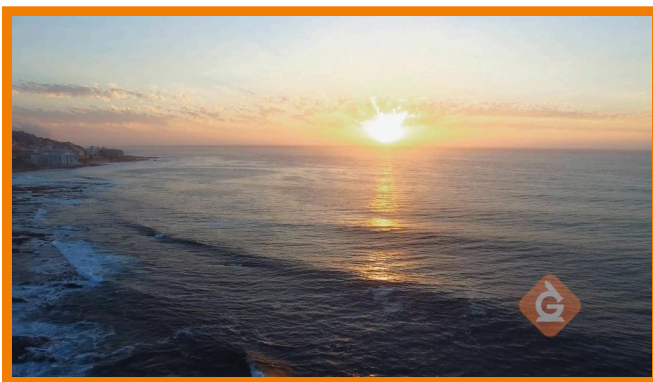
Water on Earth is found in oceans, lakes, rivers, glaciers and underground. 97% of water on Earth is saltwater and only 3% is fresh water. Since there is so little fresh water, we should use it carefully.

To better understand oceans, lakes and rivers...

LET'S BREAK IT DOWN!

Oceans cover most of the Earth's surface.

Our oceans are made of salt water. Salt water makes up most of the water on our Earth. It is called salt water because it is salty! Many animals live in the ocean like whales, sharks and colorful fish.



Lakes are surrounded by land on all sides.

There are thousands of lakes around the world. One of the biggest group of lakes is called the Great Lakes located in the United States. Many fish, birds and plants live near lakes.

Water in rivers flows from place to place.

We can use rivers to help boats move from place to place. Rivers flow downhill due to the force of gravity. Some of the biggest rivers start in mountains and flow into the ocean.



Glaciers are made of frozen fresh water.

Glaciers are made of frozen fresh water. They form very slowly when snow and ice pack together. Glaciers are found where it is very cold. If a glacier is heated up it will melt.

Groundwater is made of fresh water.

Groundwater is found under the Earth's surface. A well is a hole dug into the ground to get groundwater. A bucket or a pump is used to get the water up to the surface.



EARTH'S WATER VOCABULARY

Salt Water

Water found in the ocean. It is salty.

Fresh Water

Water found in lakes, rivers, glaciers and underground.

Glaciers

Huge chunks of frozen fresh water found in very cold places.

Lake

Fresh water completely surrounded by land on all sides.

River

Water that flows from one place to another.

Ocean

A very large area of salt water.

QUESTIONS ABOUT EARTH'S WATER

What is salt water?

Salt water is all the water found in the oceans. It has salt in it.

What is fresh water?

Fresh water is all the other types of water found on Earth that is not salt water. Fresh water is found in lakes, rivers, glaciers and underground.

What is groundwater?

Groundwater is fresh water found beneath the Earth's surface. Groundwater can be found in the cracks and spaces between soil, sand and rocks.

How can people get groundwater out of the ground?

A well can be used to get groundwater out of the ground by lowering a bucket into a hole. Sometimes groundwater is pumped out of the ground.

What kinds of living things are found in rivers and lakes?

Alligators and beavers are some of the animals found in a river. Frogs and ducks can be found in lakes. Many plants are also found in lakes and rivers.

What is a glacier and how is it formed?

A glacier is a huge chunk of frozen fresh water found in the coldest places on the Earth. Glaciers are formed from lots of snow and ice that becomes hard over time.
