

## **WATER: Read and Understand.**

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Earth is often called the blue planet. Have you ever wondered why? Look at a globe and you will soon realize that our planet is mostly covered by water.

Water is necessary for all living things. Without water, there would be no plants or animals. We use it to drink, to cook, to wash ourselves, to sail through it, and even to produce energy.



Most of the water on Earth is salt-water. Salt-water is water with a high amount of salt in it. We can find it in seas and oceans. Many animals and plants depend on this type of water, like fish, marine invertebrates, marine mammals, seaweed and plankton.

Earth also has fresh-water. Fresh-water has a very low amount of salt in it, and it comes from the rain. It is found in rivers, lakes, ponds, and streams on the surface, and it can also be found underground in the form of aquifers and springs. Many animals and plants, including ourselves, depend on fresh-water for survival, but the supply of fresh-water is very scarce (only 0.5% of the total amount of water on Earth).

In Spain, sometimes weather conditions cause a lack of rain for a long period of time. This is called a drought. When this happens, the level of water in rivers, lakes, and reservoirs decreases. As a result, the crops in the fields may be lost, and we may have water restrictions in our homes. This is why it is important to use water wisely.

**Water: read and understand II.**

**ANSWER THESE QUESTIONS:**

1. Why is Earth called the blue planet?

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2. Where can salt water be found?

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3. Where does fresh-water come from?

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4. Where can fresh-water be found?

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5. Describe some ways in which we use water.

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6. What is a drought?

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7. In what ways can we save water?

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8. What is the percentage of fresh-water on Earth? \_\_\_\_\_

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9. Name some living things that depend on salt- water. \_\_\_\_\_

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10. What would the Earth be like if it had no water? \_\_\_\_\_

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