

# Let's find out about water



## DIRECTIONS:

Put a check mark in the box of the statements that are TRUE!

### 1. Water is

- wet (when it falls as rain)
- cold (when it is ice)
- hot (when it is boiling)
- hard to see (when it is vapor)

### 2. Water is used by

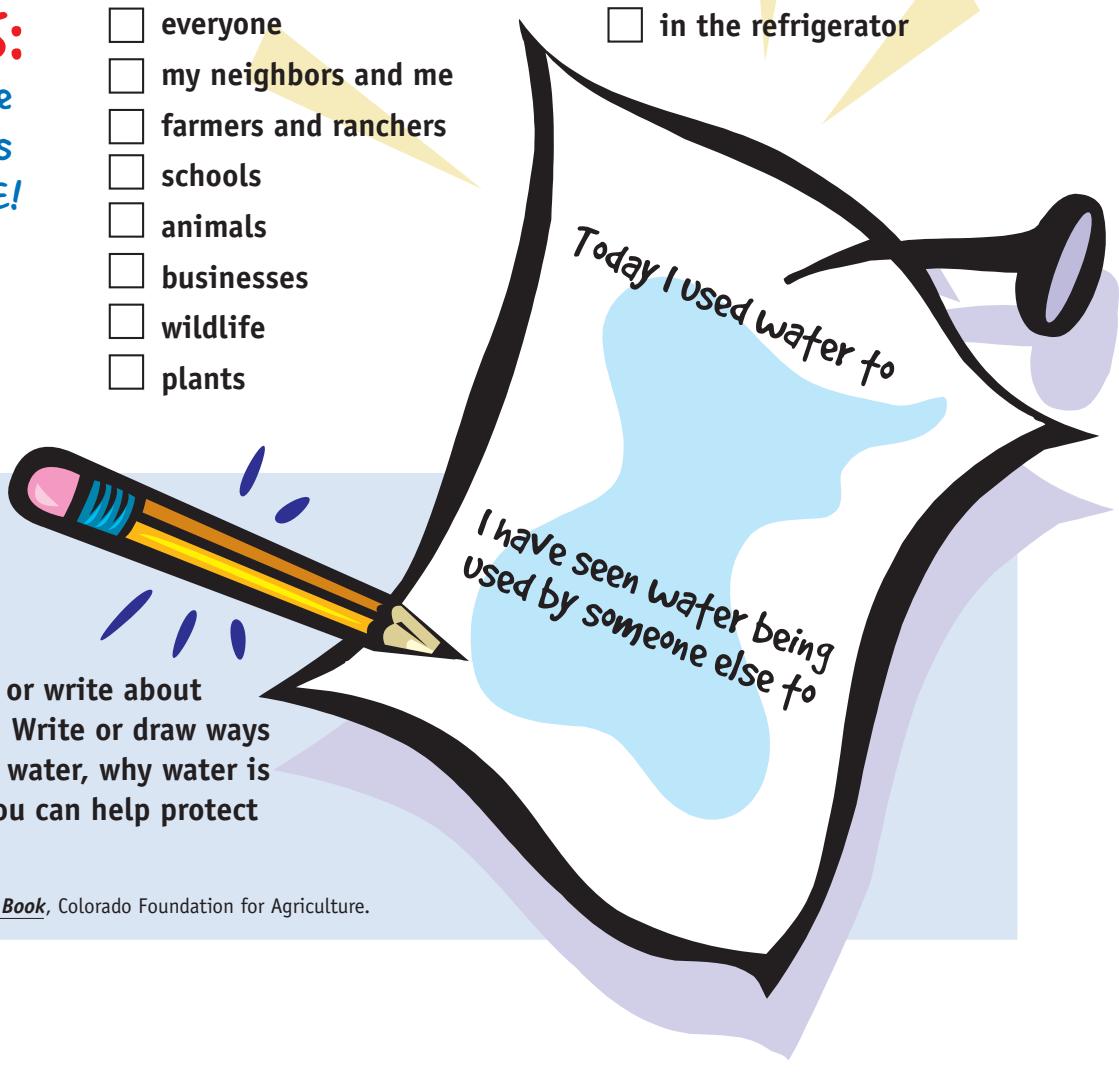
- everyone
- my neighbors and me
- farmers and ranchers
- schools
- animals
- businesses
- wildlife
- plants

### 3. Water is found

- in the ground
- in the sky
- in lakes and streams
- in the oceans
- in water fountains
- in glaciers
- in the refrigerator

## Information on Journaling:

You can use a journal to draw or write about ways you use water everyday. Write or draw ways you use water, places you see water, why water is important to you, and ways you can help protect and conserve water.



# Understanding Water



## My family uses water

- to drink
- to cook
- to bathe
- to flush the toilet
- to wash faces and hands
- to water the lawn
- to wash dishes
- to wash clothes
- to wash the car
- to water house plants
- for fun, like playing in the sprinkler, swimming, filling water balloons
- to brush teeth
- to make ice cubes
- to fill a bird bath
- to fill a fish tank
- to grow vegetables
- for pets to drink

## A farmer uses water

- to water crops (sugar beets, corn, vegetables, flowers)
- for livestock to drink
- for wildlife to drink
- to clean equipment



## NOTES



Water is important to life. We need water to live. When we look at a globe we see that most of Earth is covered by water. Most of the water on Earth is found in the oceans. Ocean water is salt water. We cannot drink ocean water because of the salt. Plants grown by farms cannot use water from the ocean because it is also too salty for plants.

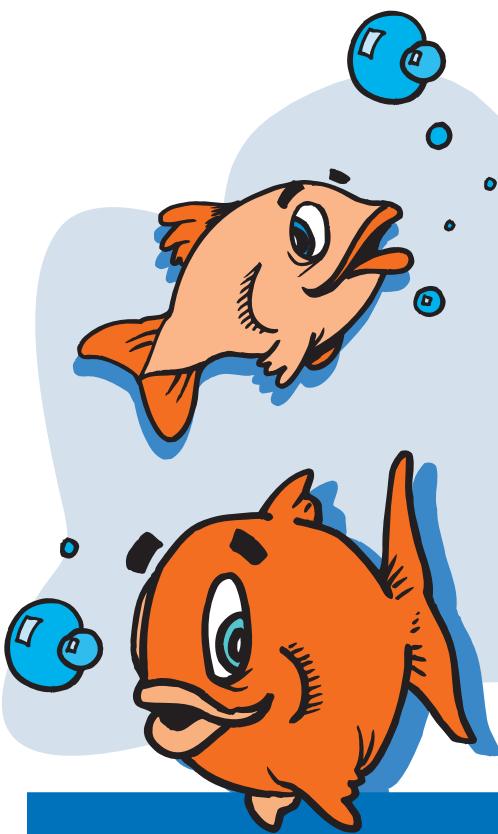
**Water is a natural resource.**

-Adapted from *Understanding Water - Activity Book*, Colorado Foundation for Agriculture.

# Fresh Water



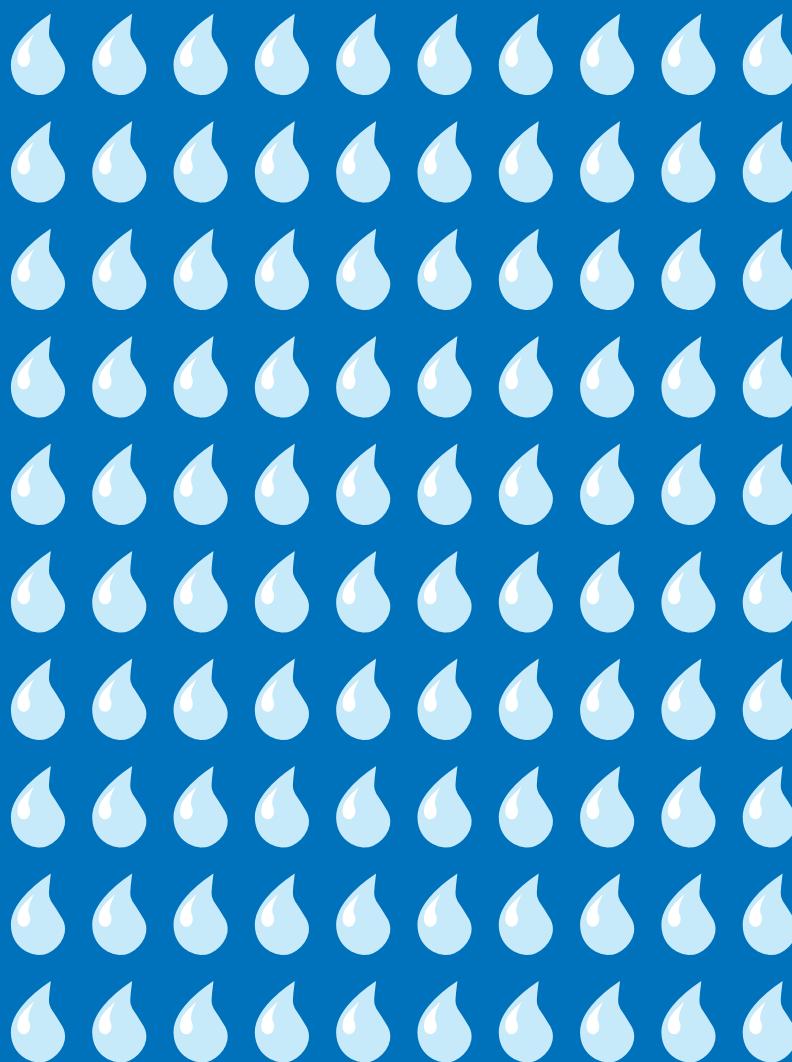
Plants and animals that live on land need fresh water. Fresh water is water that does not have salt mixed with it. We can drink fresh water after treatment. Fresh water is found in lakes and reservoirs, streams and rivers. It falls as rain from storm clouds and is in the snowpack in mountains. Fresh water is found under ground as groundwater and frozen as ice in glaciers.



## MATH FUN!

All of something is 100%  
97% of the water on Earth is salt water. 3% of the water on our planet is fresh water.

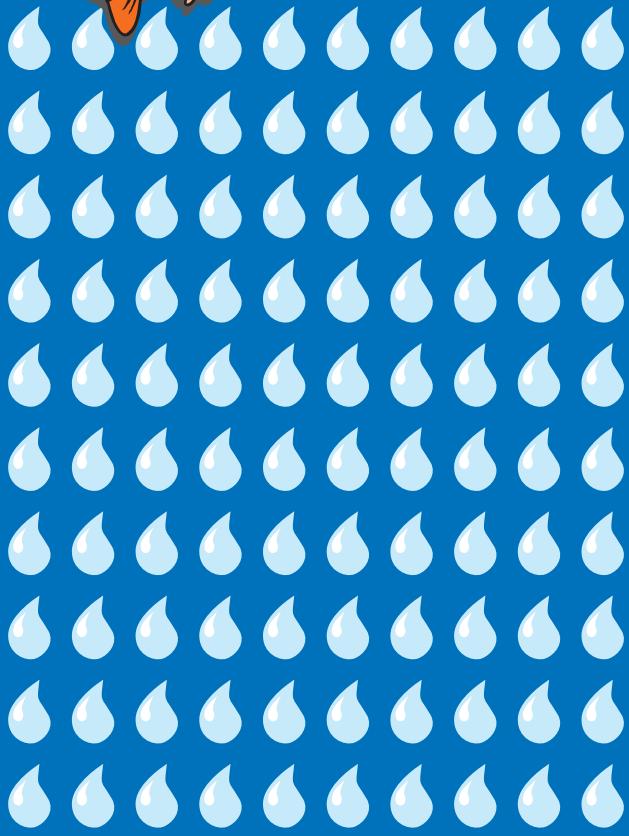
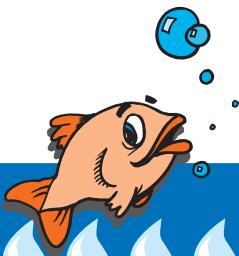
Here are 10 rows of 10 water drops. How many water drops are there?  $10 \times 10$



Color 97 of the drops green to show salt water.

Color 3 of the drops blue to show fresh water.

# Understanding Water



Use two colors again: one color for ice, one color for water that is not frozen.

**fact:** Less than one percent of fresh water is available for people, plants and animals to use!

**theory:** Most scientists believe there is the same amount of water on earth today that there was at the time of the dinosaur.

Now the water drops represent all the fresh water on Earth.

Eighty-five percent of Earth's fresh water is frozen in ice at the north and south poles.



How much water is available for people, plants, and animals to use? Color the drops to show how much fresh water is available to use.

## Do the math!

$$\begin{array}{r} 100 \\ - 85 \\ \hline \end{array}$$



# Water Pollution?



What do you think of when you hear or read the word **pollution**?

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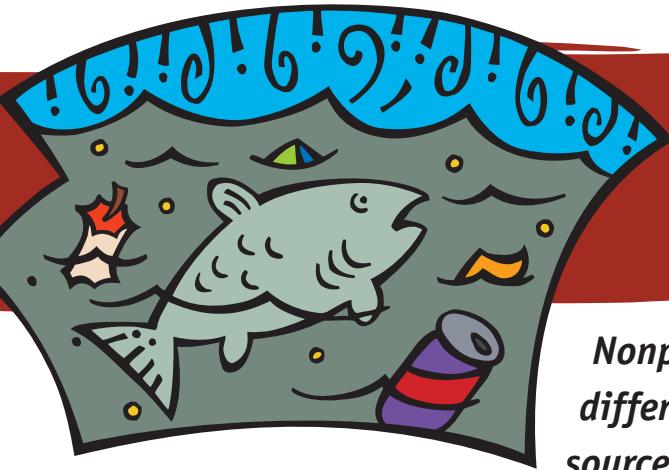
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There are two types of water pollution:  
point source pollution  
and nonpoint source pollution.



Point source pollution

*Point source pollution can be traced to one source. You can easily identify its source. You can point at sewage flowing from broken pipes or see waste materials coming from a factory. Laws have been passed to stop this type of pollution. In addition to paying fines for breaking the law, polluters must clean polluted water before it goes back into rivers.*



# Nonpoint source pollution

*Nonpoint source pollution comes from many different sources. There are many possible sources of the dirty "stuff" in streams and lakes. For example, each time it rains, runoff from the street picks up litter, motor oil, pet (animal) waste, leaves, grass clippings and spilled chemicals. These things are washed into storm drains and make their way to our rivers and streams.*

*Nonpoint source pollution (NPS) is also runoff from rainfall and snowmelt moving over and through the ground. The runoff carries natural and human-made pollutants into lakes, rivers, streams, wetlands and other water systems.*

*Nonpoint source pollution existed even before people started building roads, houses and businesses. Heavy rains carry dirt, soil and other things into rivers and streams.*

Each time it rains, runoff from the street picks up litter, motor oil, pet (animal) waste, leaves, grass clippings and spilled chemicals.

circle the items that can pollute water.

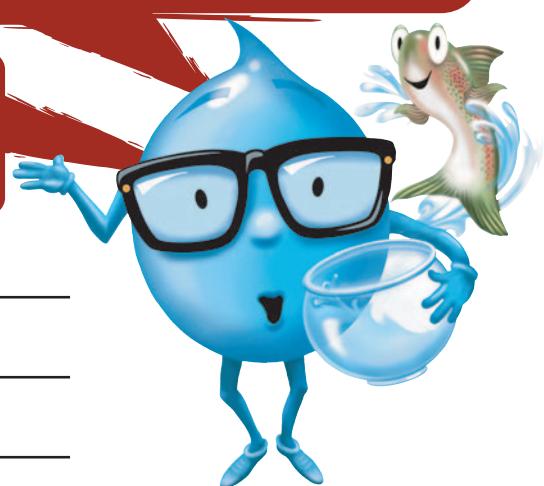
SOIL	MOTOR OIL	BOTTLES
PAINT	LITTER	PET WASTE
GASOLINE	LEAVES	CHEMICALS
PAPER	CANS	ABANDONED CARS





What do you see in the picture?

How can we help the fish?



*The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) says that nonpoint sources are the main cause of our water pollution*