Wonderful Water

Cheryl Palin

Read and discover all about wonderful water ...
- What do we use water for?
- What is the biggest ocean animal?

Read and discover more about the world!
This series of non-fiction readers provides interesting and educational content, with activities and project work.

Series Editor: Hazel Geatches

Audio CD Pack available
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Level 3
- 600 headwords

Level 4
- 750 headwords

Level 5
- 900 headwords

Level 6
- 1,050 headwords

Cover photograph: Getty Images (Tubal Ocean Wave/Don and Liysa King)
Introduction

Water is all around us. We have liquid water in rivers and oceans. We have frozen water in ice and glaciers, and we have water vapor in clouds and steam. Water is very important.

How many oceans are there? What is the biggest ocean animal? How much water do we use to take a bath? What percent (%) of our body is water?
Salt Water

About 70% of Earth is covered with water. Most of the water is in the oceans. There are five oceans – the Pacific Ocean, the Atlantic Ocean, the Indian Ocean, the Southern Ocean, and the Arctic Ocean. The largest ocean is the Pacific Ocean. It’s 156 million square kilometers. It’s about 15 times bigger than the USA!

There are also many seas on Earth. The largest sea is the South China Sea. It’s 3 million square kilometers. One of the smallest seas is the Marmara Sea. It’s only about 11,000 square kilometers.

All the water in the oceans and seas is salt water.
Fresh Water

About 3% of the water on Earth is fresh water. Most of this fresh water is frozen. It’s ice. It’s in glaciers or polar ice caps.

Some of the fresh water is in lakes and rivers. One of the biggest lakes on Earth is Lake Superior in North America. It’s about 82,000 square kilometers. The longest river on Earth is the River Nile in Africa. It’s about 6,700 kilometers long.

Some of the fresh water is in the sky. It’s in the clouds and the rain. Some of the water is in the soil, in rocks, or under the ground in caves.

Discovered: Most of Earth is covered with water, but only about 1% is fresh water that we can drink. The rest is salt water or ice.

Go to pages 26–27 for activities.
Do you know where water comes from? When it rains, water falls from the sky. This is called precipitation. Rainwater goes into streams. Stream water goes into rivers. River water goes into seas and oceans.

When it’s sunny, the ocean water gets warm. Some water goes up into the sky. This is called evaporation. The water in the sky makes clouds. Then it rains again. This is called the water cycle.

We’re lucky to have water in our homes! About one billion people don’t have clean water in their homes.

Most of the water we use comes from rivers and reservoirs. Clean water goes through pipes to our homes.
We use a lot of water at home. We drink water and we cook with water. We also use water for washing.

We use about 80 liters of water when we take a bath. We use about 27 liters of water when we take a shower. We use water to brush our teeth and we also need water to flush the toilet. We use about 9 liters of water every time we flush.

We use water to wash and clean other things, too. We wash the dishes with water. We wash clothes with water. We wash and clean everything in the house with water!
Water Activities

We use a lot of water outside the home. We need water for the food we eat. Meat comes from animals, and animals drink water. Fruits and vegetables also need water to grow. We need water to travel. We can travel by ship and by boat. We can also make power with water. Hydroelectricity is electricity made from water.

Making Electricity

We have fun with water. We like to go to the beach in the summer. We also like to visit rivers and lakes.

Lots of sports need water. Sailing, surfing, swimming, waterskiing, and diving all use water. Which water sports do you like?
We Need Water

The human body contains lots of water. Our body is about 70% water. Our brain is about 85% water and our bones are about 33% water. Water is very important for the human body. We can live for four weeks without food, but we can’t live for more than about three days without water!

We need to drink about eight glasses of water every day. We need to drink even more water when we play sports and when it’s hot. We need water because it keeps our blood healthy. Our blood is about 50% water. Blood takes food to different parts of our body. It takes oxygen from our lungs to other parts of our body, too.

If we don’t drink water, our body gets dehydrated. If we’re dehydrated, our kidneys and our brain don’t work. Then we get very sick.
Lots of animals live in water. Some animals live in salt water. They live in seas and oceans.

The biggest ocean animal is the blue whale. It can be more than 30 meters long and 200 metric tons. It eats very small ocean animals called krill. It can eat 4 metric tons of krill in a day! Blue whales live in most of the oceans.

Many other animals live in salt water. There are sharks and lots of other fish. All ocean animals need water. Water gives them food and oxygen.

Jellyfish are not fish – they are invertebrates. They don’t have a skeleton. They need water to support their bodies.
Some animals live in fresh water. They live in rivers and lakes. Fish, frogs, beavers, and ducks live in fresh water.

Big animals also live in fresh water. The Nile crocodile lives in rivers and lakes in Africa. When large animals come to drink, it pulls them under the water and eats them!

Land animals need water, too. They drink water. In the African savannah, animals, like zebras, giraffes, and elephants, come to the waterhole to drink. The savannah can be very hot and dry, and these animals cannot live without water.

**Discovered!** Hippos need water to keep their skin healthy. They stay in water all day to keep cool. If they don’t have water, they get sunburnt!
Too Much Water

Floors can happen when there is too much rain. Rivers and lakes become very full. Flooods can also happen when there are very big waves in the ocean.

Where there are floods, the water covers roads and paths. Cars and people can’t get out of the area.

The water goes into houses, and people have to leave their homes. Sometimes they have to get on the roof of their house to wait for help. Cars and people can’t get into the area to help. The police and firefighters rescue people with boats and helicopters.

Flooods can be very dangerous. The water moves fast and it’s very strong. Don’t play in flood water!

Go to pages 40–41 for activities.
10 Save Water!

When there is no water, rivers and lakes become dry. Plants can’t grow and animals can’t drink. If there is no food and no water to drink, people die, too. Water is very important. We all need to save water.

You can save water at home. Turn off the water when you brush your teeth. Take a shower, not a bath. You can also save water outside the home. Collect rainwater to water plants. Don’t throw things into rivers or lakes. People and animals need clean water, not dirty water.

Remember! Our Earth needs water. People, animals, and plants need water. Save our wonderful water!
1 Write Sea or Ocean.

1 Atlantic Ocean 5 South China
2 Pacific 6 Indian
3 Dead 7 Arctic
4 Southern 8 Marmara

2 Write the numbers.

70 5 15 156 3 30 11,000

1 There are 5 oceans.
2 The Dead Sea is _____% salt.
3 The South China Sea is ______ million square kilometers.
4 ______% of Earth is covered with water.
5 The Pacific Ocean is ______ million square kilometers.
6 The Pacific Ocean is ______ times bigger than the USA.
7 The Marmara Sea is ______ square kilometers.

3 Write the words.

1 Atlantic Ocean
2
3
4
5
6
7
8

4 Where do you live? Draw ★ on the map.
I live in ___________________________
Fresh Water

1. Write true or false.
   1. 30% of Earth’s water is fresh water. **false**
   2. Some of the fresh water is in the ocean. ______
   3. Some of the fresh water is ice. ______
   4. The longest river in the world is in North America. ______
   5. Some fresh water is in clouds and rain. ______
   6. We can drink all the water on Earth. ______

2. Find and write the words.
   - glacier
   - badaeifi
   - ckhvgo
   - aeierue
   - bsrainr
   - soiljla
   - etcloud

3. Complete the sentences.
   1. Some of Earth’s fresh water is in glaciers.
   2. Some of the water is ______.
   3. Some of the water ______.
   4. Some of the ______
   5. Some of ______.
   6. Some ______.
3 The Water Cycle

1 Circle the correct words.

1 evaporation / precipitation
2 river / stream
3 precipitation / evaporation
4 river / stream
5 ocean / river
6 moon / sun

2 Number the sentences in order.

☐ It rains again.
☐ River water goes into the ocean.
☒ It rains.
☐ The water goes up into the sky and makes clouds.
☐ Rainwater goes into streams.
☐ It’s sunny and the ocean gets warm.
☐ Stream water goes into rivers.

3 Follow the water. Write the words.

reservoir  home  dirty water  pipe  clean water

1 ____________  4 ____________
2 ____________
3 ____________  5 ____________

4 Write true or false.

1 The water we use comes from rivers and reservoirs. ____________
2 The water in the reservoir is too dirty to drink. ____________
3 Dirty water goes through pipes to our homes. ____________
4 Everybody has clean water at home. ____________
Water at Home

1. Which activities use water? Write ✓ or ✗.

2. Look at the picture. Complete the sentences.
   - I wash shower I drink my teeth the toilet
   - television I cook I read some water I brush
   - dressed my hair a comic book the dishes

3. Write the numbers.
   - 9 27 80
   1. We use ____ liters of water to take a shower.
   2. We use ____ liters of water to take a bath.
   3. We use ____ liters of water to flush the toilet.


   1. I flush the toilet.
   2. I take a ________.
   3. ________ ________.
   4. I get ________.
   5. I brush ________.
   6. ________ ________.
   7. ________ ________.
   8. I watch ________.
   9. ________ ________.
   10. ________ ________.
5 Water Activities

1 Find and write the words.

1 ___________
2 ___________
3 ___________
4 ___________
5 ___________
6 ___________

v e g e t a b l e a m e n a n l g r p l g m t a e a n i m a l s t f o p a d t o a r i c b h e m b u l l o b o e l i g l a o c a e t r e t a g t s h i p p e h l

2 Match.

1 Animals
2 Fruit and vegetables
3 People travel
4 Hydroelectricity

water to grow.
is electricity made from water.
drink water.
by boat and by ship.

3 Circle the correct words. Then complete the chart.

1 ___________
2 ___________
3 ___________
4 ___________
5 ___________
6 ___________

waterskiing / swimming
surfing / horse riding
diving / sailing
sailing / swimming
tennis / waterskiing
sailing / surfing
soccer / diving
surfing / sailing

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6 We Need Water

1 Write the words.

brain
bones
lungs
kidneys
blood

2 Write brain, bones, or blood.

1 85% of our _____________ is water.
2 Our _______________ takes food to different parts of the body.
3 33% of our ______________ is water.
4 If we’re dehydrated, our ______________ doesn’t work.

3 Write the numbers. 4 3 70 8

1 About _____ % of our body is water.
2 We can live for _____ weeks without food.
3 We can’t live for more than _____ days without water.
4 We need to drink _____ glasses of water every day.

4 Match.

1 How much of our body is water?
   Three days.

2 What does blood take to different parts of the body?
   We get dehydrated.

3 How long can we live without water?
   Oxygen and food.

4 What happens if we don’t drink water?
   About 70%.
7 Ocean Animals

1 Write true or false.
1 The water in seas and oceans is salt water. _____
2 The blue whale lives in the ocean. _____
3 Sharks are the biggest ocean animals. _____
4 Fish need oxygen. _____
5 Jellyfish have skeletons. _____
6 An elephant is bigger than a blue whale. _____

2 Complete the sentences.
ocean animals biggest big oceans elephants meters

The blue whale is the ________ ________ ocean animal.
It can be more than 30 ________ long.
It can be as ________ as 25 ________.
It eats lots of little ________.
Blue whales live in most ________.

3 What does water give ocean animals? Write.

1 f______
2 o____y____
3 s____p____

4 Draw and write about two ocean animals.

This is a ________.
________
It lives in ________.
________
Water gives this animal ________ and ________.
________
________
8 Other Animals

Read pages 18–19.

1 Circle ☐ animals that live in fresh water and ☐ animals that live in salt water.

- duck
- jellyfish
- whale
- frog
- shark
- crocodile
- beaver
- hippo

2 Complete the chart.

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3 Match.

- Nile crocodiles
- Zebras
- Hippos

- are land animals.
- need water to keep their skin healthy.
- eat other animals under water.

4 Draw and write about a land animal that you like.

This is a ____________________________
It lives in ____________________________
It eats ____________________________
It drinks ____________________________
I like it because ____________________________
9 Too Much Water

Read pages 20–21.

1 Circle the correct words.
   1 Floods happen when there is **too much rain** / **no rain**.
   2 People need to **leave** / **go** into their homes.
   3 The police rescue people with **cars and bicycles** / **boats and helicopters**.
   4 Play / Don’t play in flood water!

2 Complete the puzzle. Write the secret word.

The secret word is: [Blank]
1 Write ✓ or X.

- Don’t turn off the water.
- Turn off the water.
- Take a shower.
- Take a bath.
- Collect rainwater.
- Don’t collect rainwater.
- Don’t throw things into rivers.
- Throw things into rivers.

2 Design a poster. Write about how to save water.
Oxford Read and Discover graded readers are at four levels, from 3 to 6, suitable for students from age 8 and older. They cover many topics within three subject areas, and can support English across the curriculum, or Content and Language Integrated Learning (CLIL).

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- Activity Book
- Audio CD Pack (book & audio CD)

For Teacher’s Notes & CLIL Guidance go to www.oup.com/elt/teacher/readanddiscover

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Oxford Read and Discover readers shown in GRAY available early 2011.
For younger students, Dolphin Readers Levels Starter, 1, and 2 are available.