Oxford Read and Discover

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

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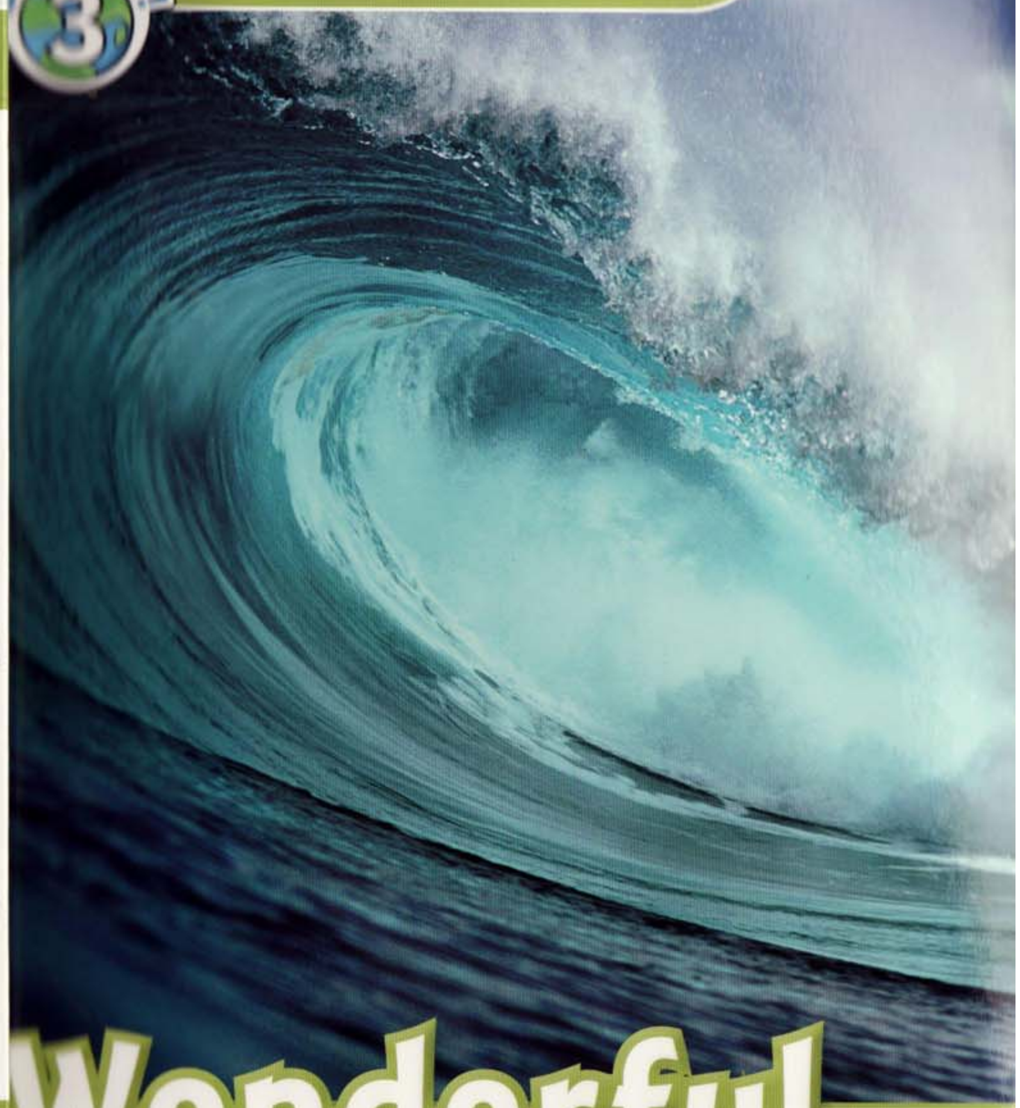
Discover! 3

Oxford Read and Discover



Wonderful Water

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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?

Discover!

Now read and discover more about wonderful water!

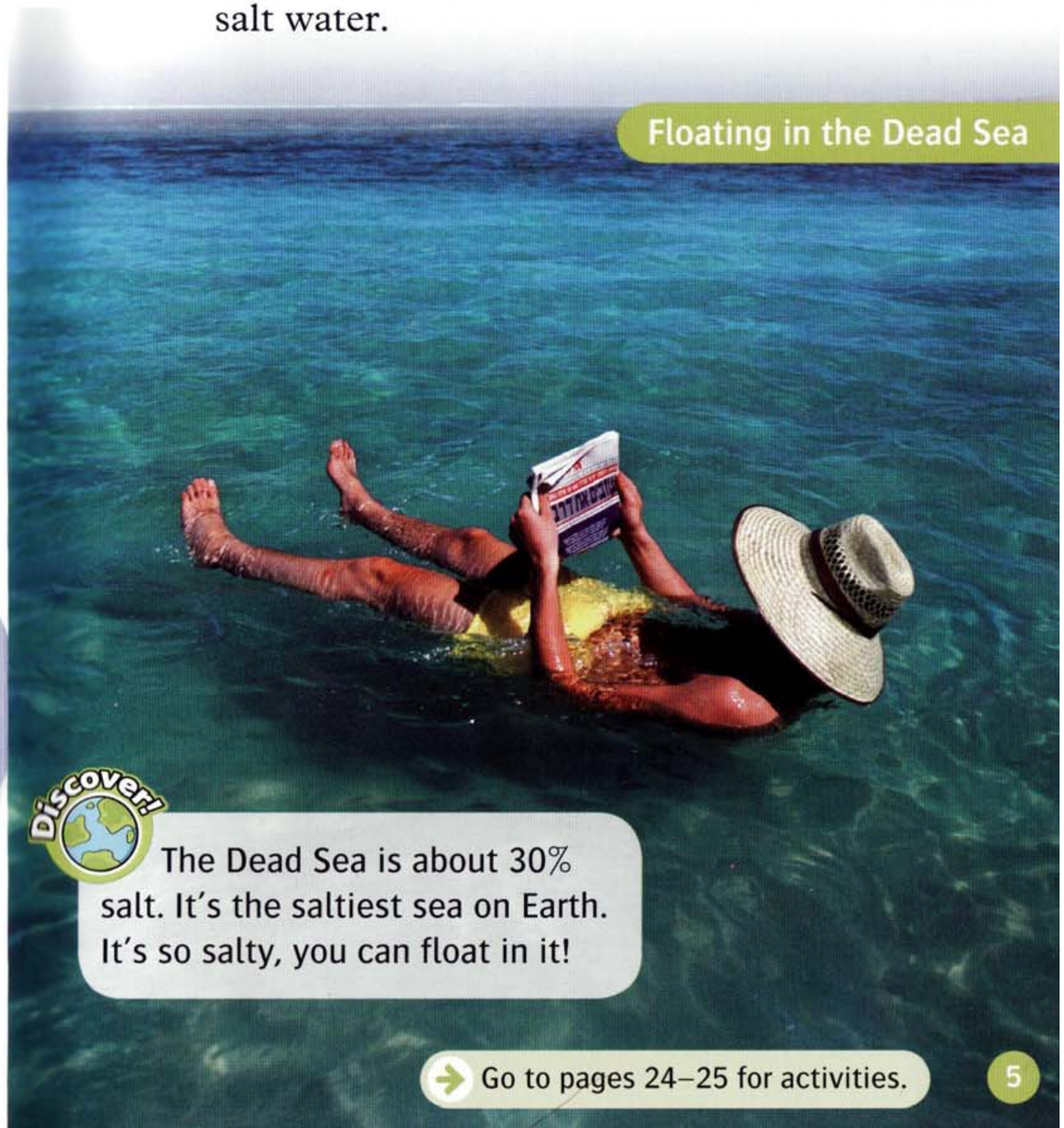
1 Salt Water

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!

Earth

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.



Floating in the Dead Sea

Discover!

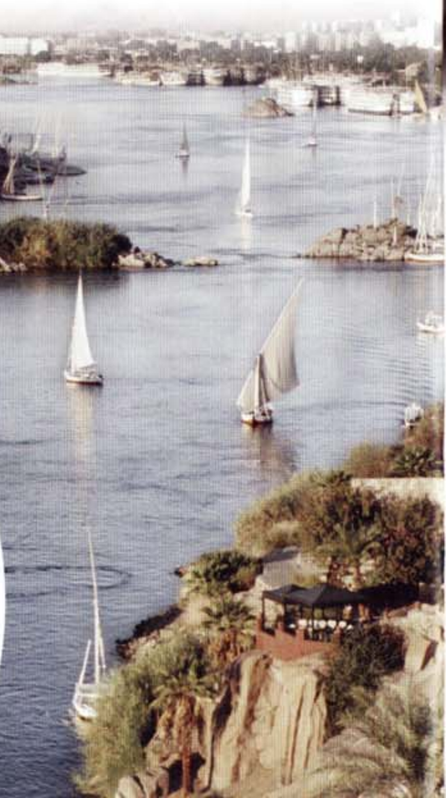
The Dead Sea is about 30% salt. It's the saltiest sea on Earth. It's so salty, you can float in it!

Go to pages 24–25 for activities.

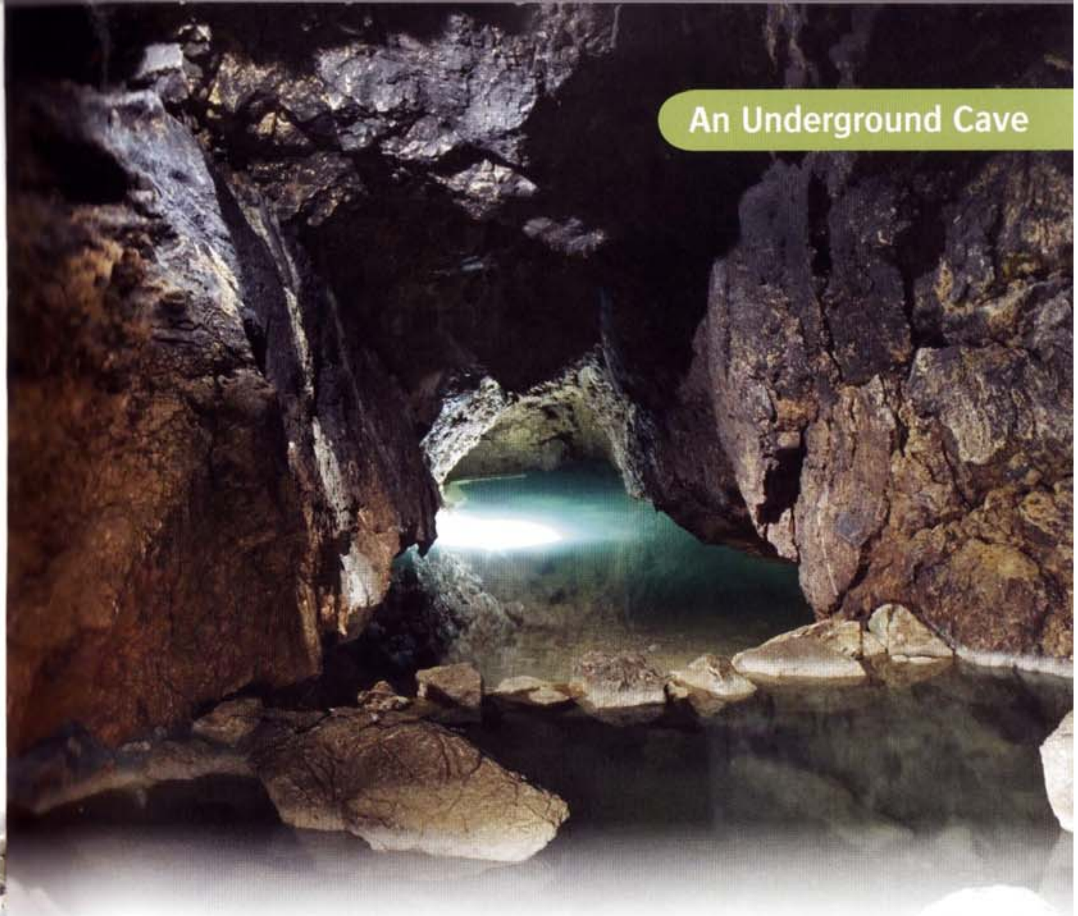
2 Fresh Water

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.


River Nile


Lake Superior


An Underground Cave

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.

Discover!

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.

3 The Water Cycle

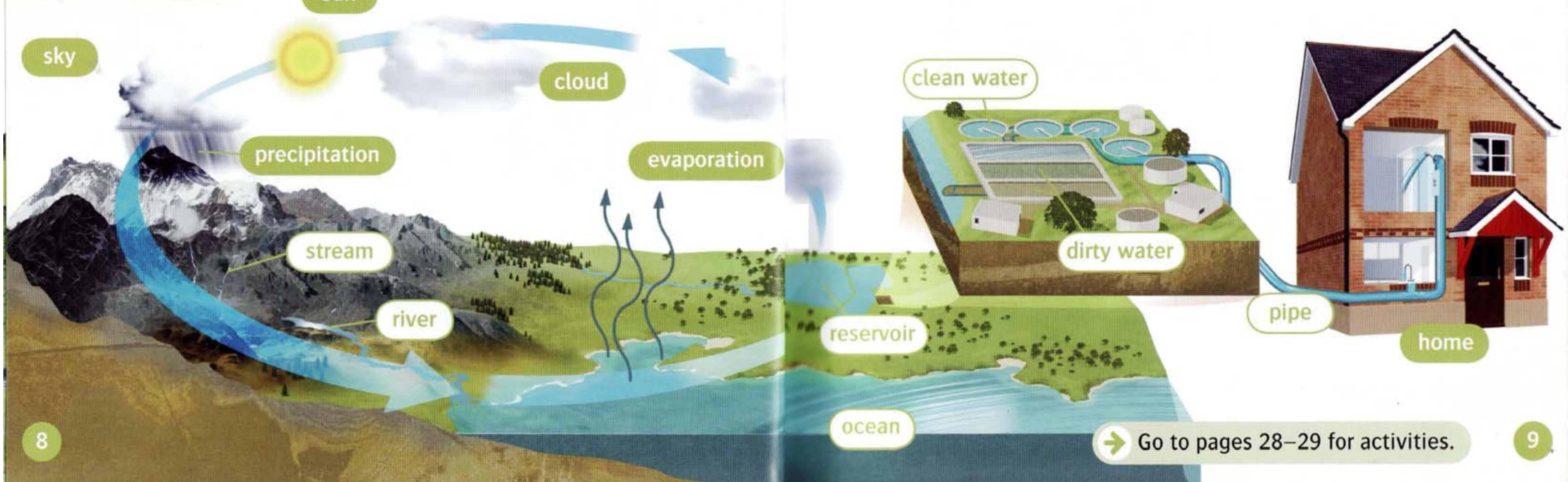
Do you know where water comes from? When it rains, water falls from the sky. This is called precipitation. Rainwater goes into streams. Stream water goes into rivers. River water goes into seas and oceans.

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.

Discover! 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.

The Water Cycle



Go to pages 28–29 for activities.

4 Water at Home

We use a lot of water at home. We drink water and we cook with water. We also use water for washing.

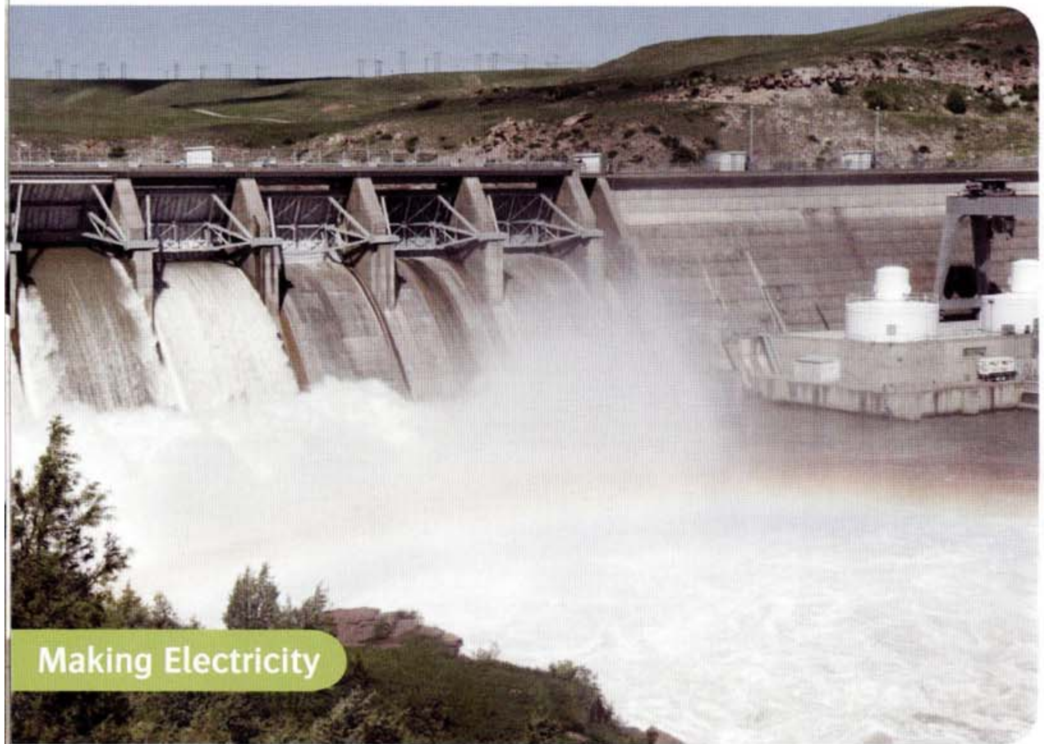
We use about 80 liters of water when we take a bath. We use about 27 liters of water when we take a shower. We use water to brush our teeth and we also need water to flush the toilet. We use about 9 liters of water every time we flush.

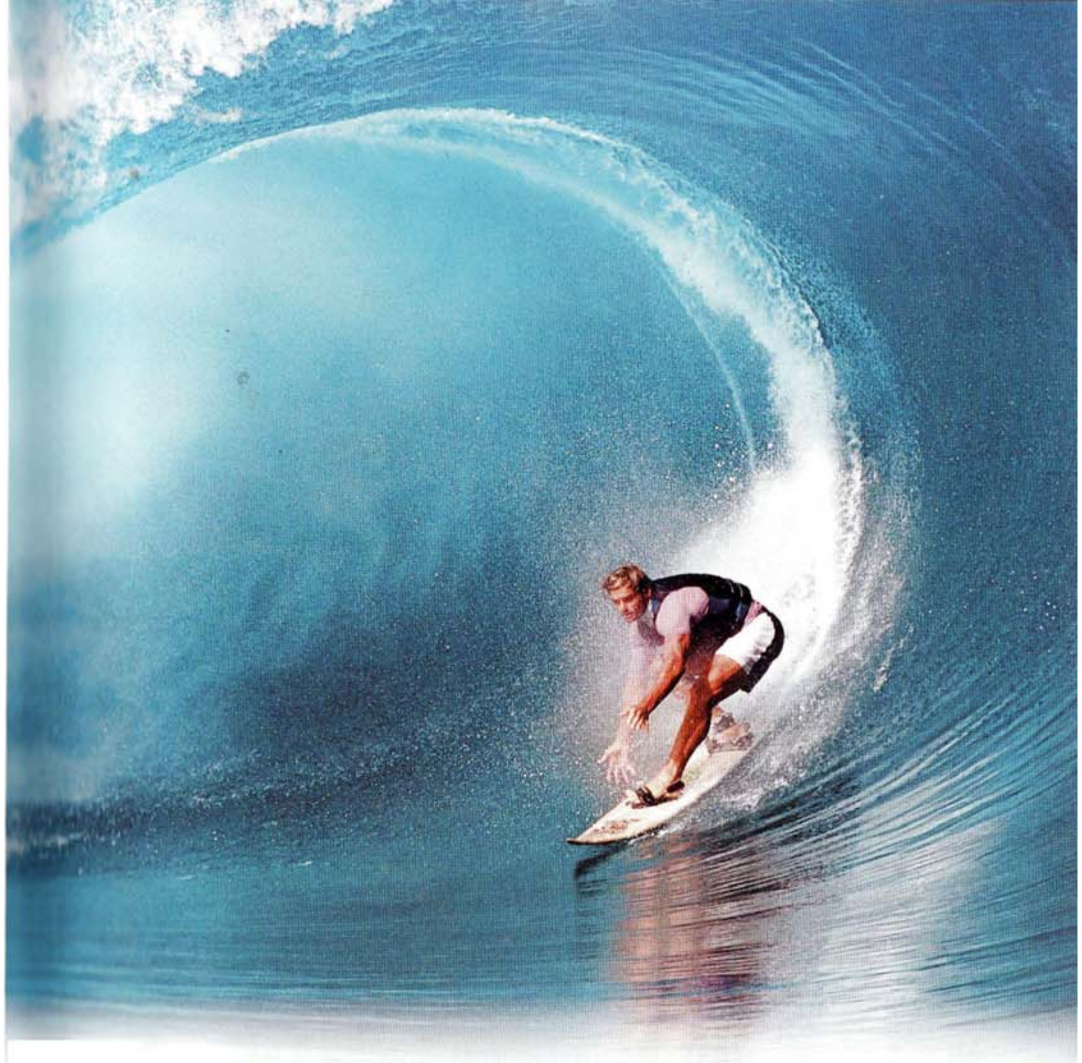
We use water to wash and clean other things, too. We wash the dishes with water. We wash clothes with water. We wash and clean everything in the house with water!

Go to pages 30–31 for activities.

5 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



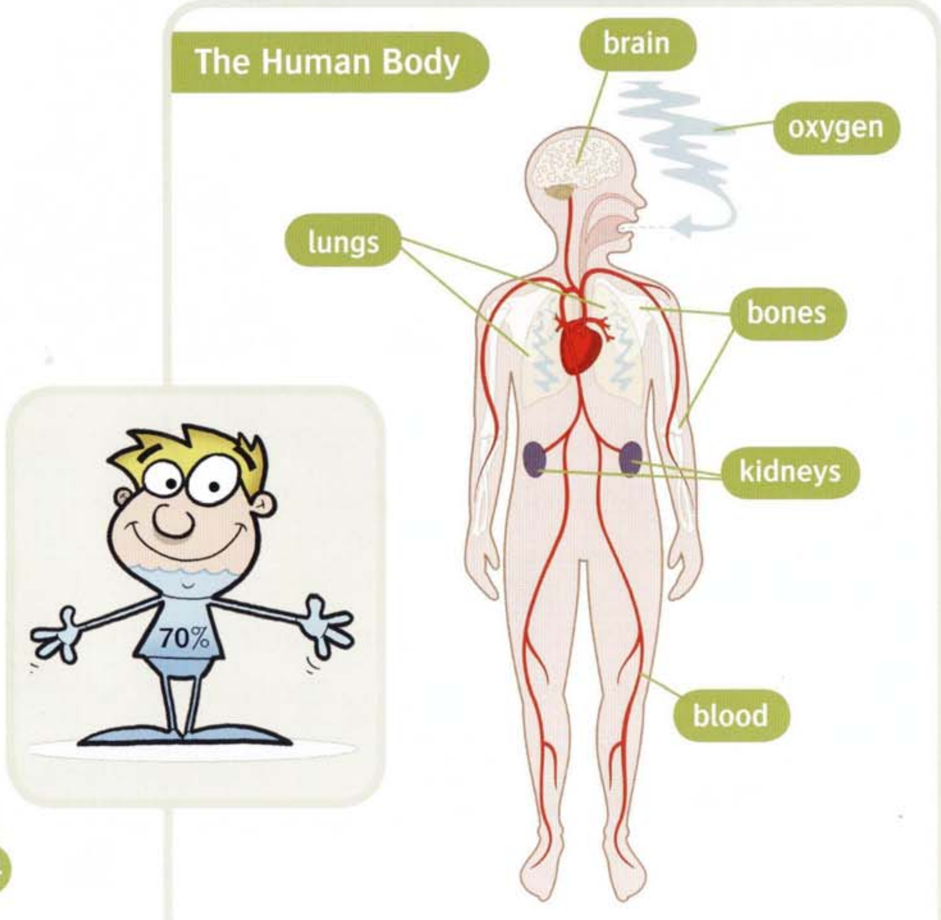
We have fun with water. We like to go to the beach in the summer. We also like to visit rivers and lakes.

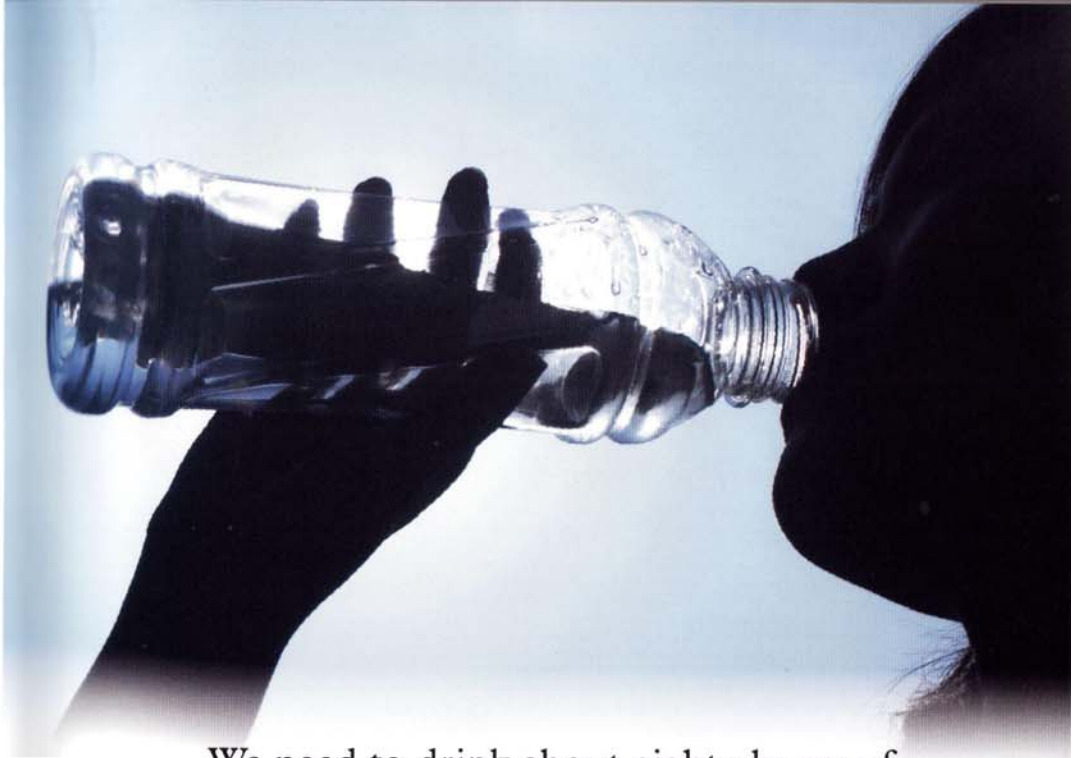
Lots of sports need water. Sailing, surfing, swimming, waterskiing, and diving all use water. Which water sports do you like?

Go to pages 32–33 for activities.

6 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.

Discover!

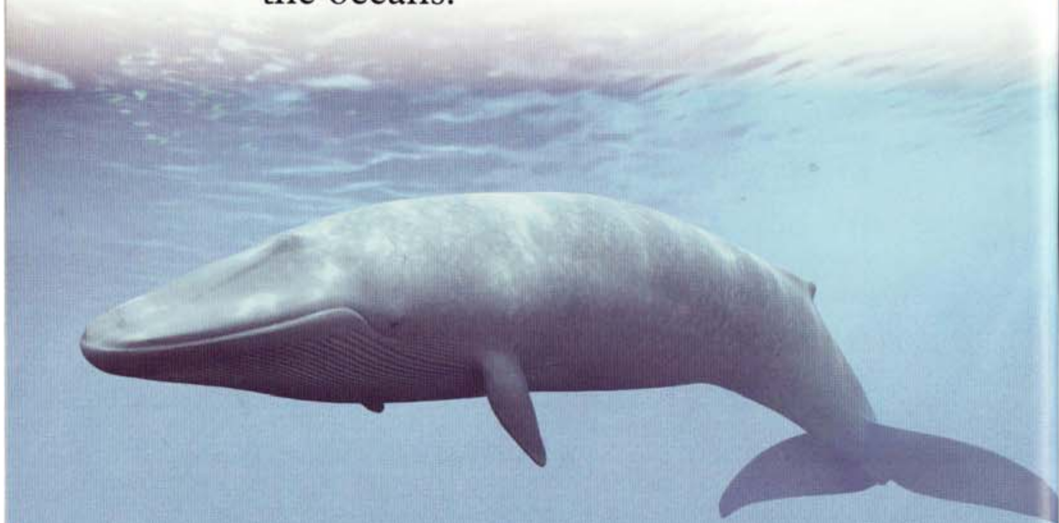
If we don't drink water, our body gets dehydrated. If we're dehydrated, our kidneys and our brain don't work. Then we get very sick.

Go to pages 34–35 for activities.

7 Ocean Animals

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.



Discover!

The blue whale is the biggest animal on Earth. It can be as big as 25 elephants.

x 25

= 1 blue whale

A Jellyfish

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.

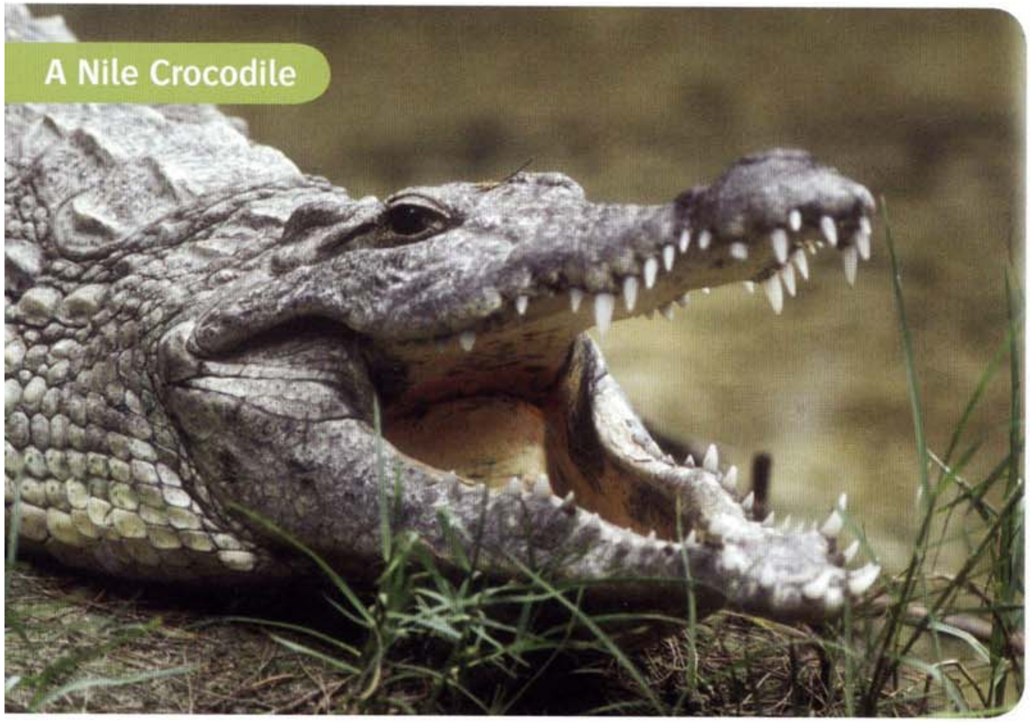
Jellyfish are not fish – they are invertebrates. They don't have a skeleton. They need water to support their bodies.

Go to pages 36–37 for activities.

8 Other Animals

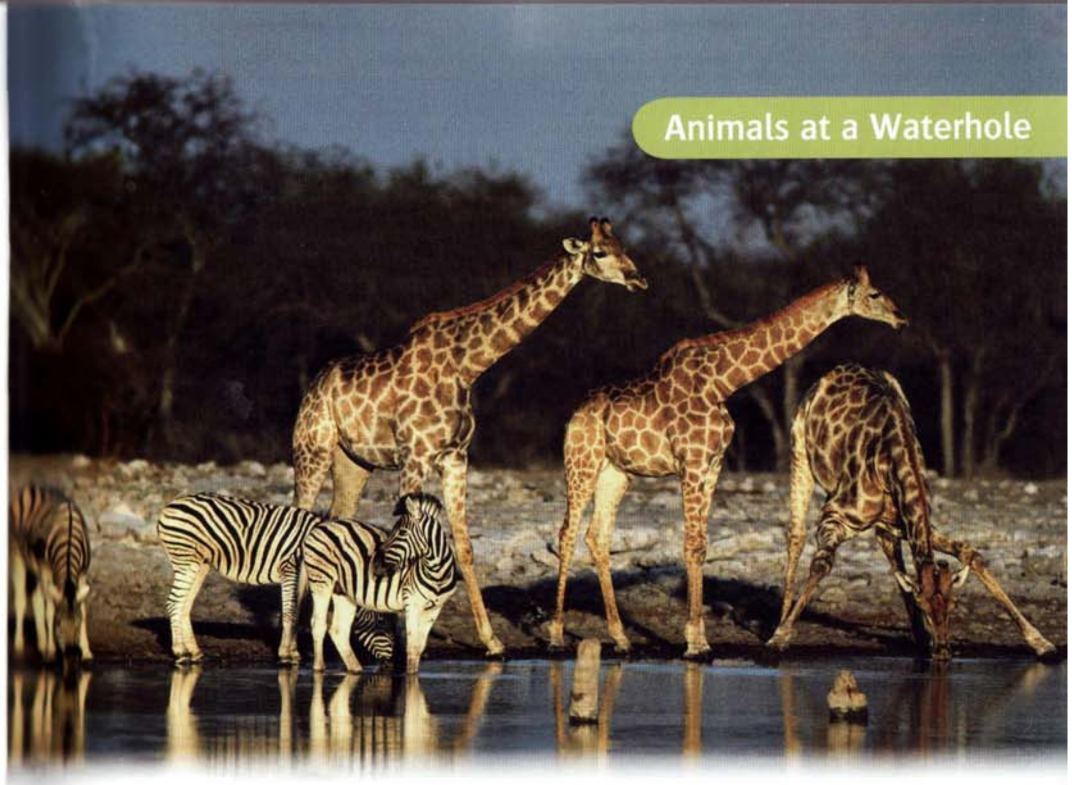
Some animals live in fresh water. They live in rivers and lakes. Fish, frogs, beavers, and ducks live in fresh water.

A Nile Crocodile



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!

Animals at a Waterhole



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.

Discover!

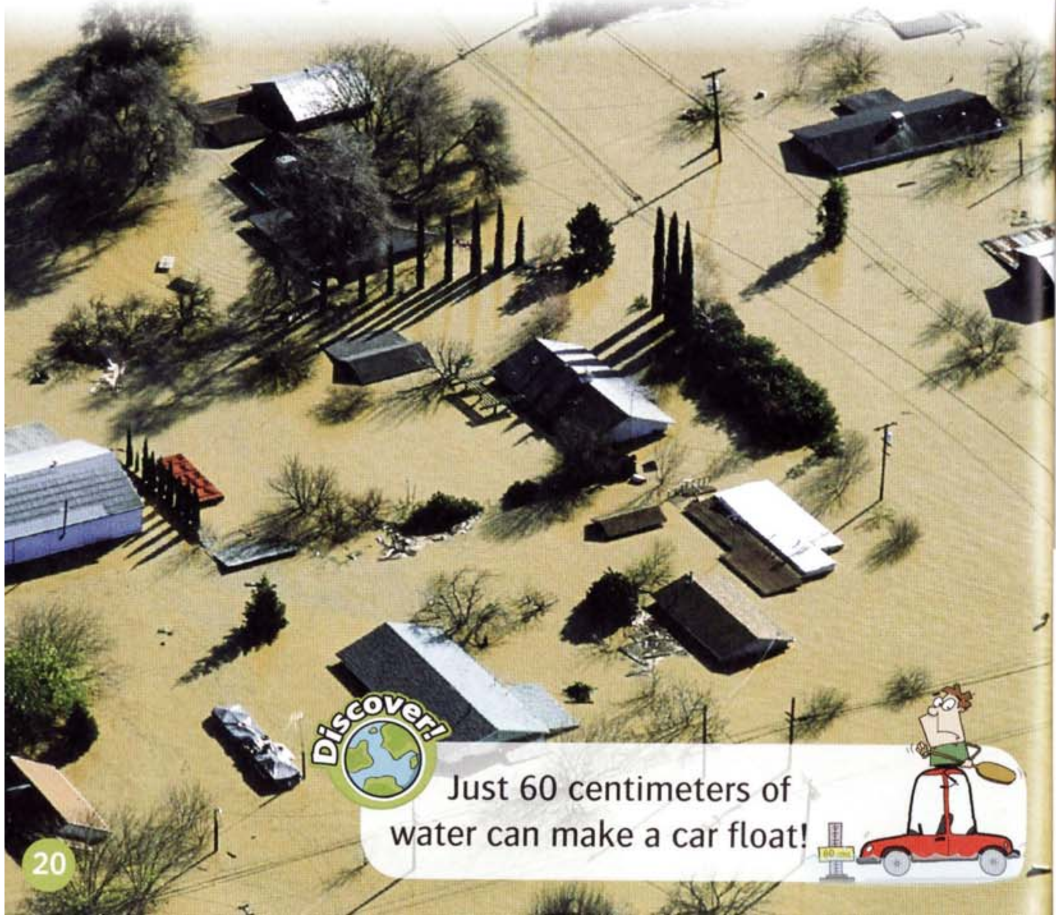
Hippos need water to keep their skin healthy. They stay in water all day to keep cool. If they don't have water, they get sunburnt!

Go to pages 38–39 for activities.

9 Too Much Water

Floods can happen when there is too much rain. Rivers and lakes become very full. Floods 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.



Discover!

Just 60 centimeters of water can make a car float!

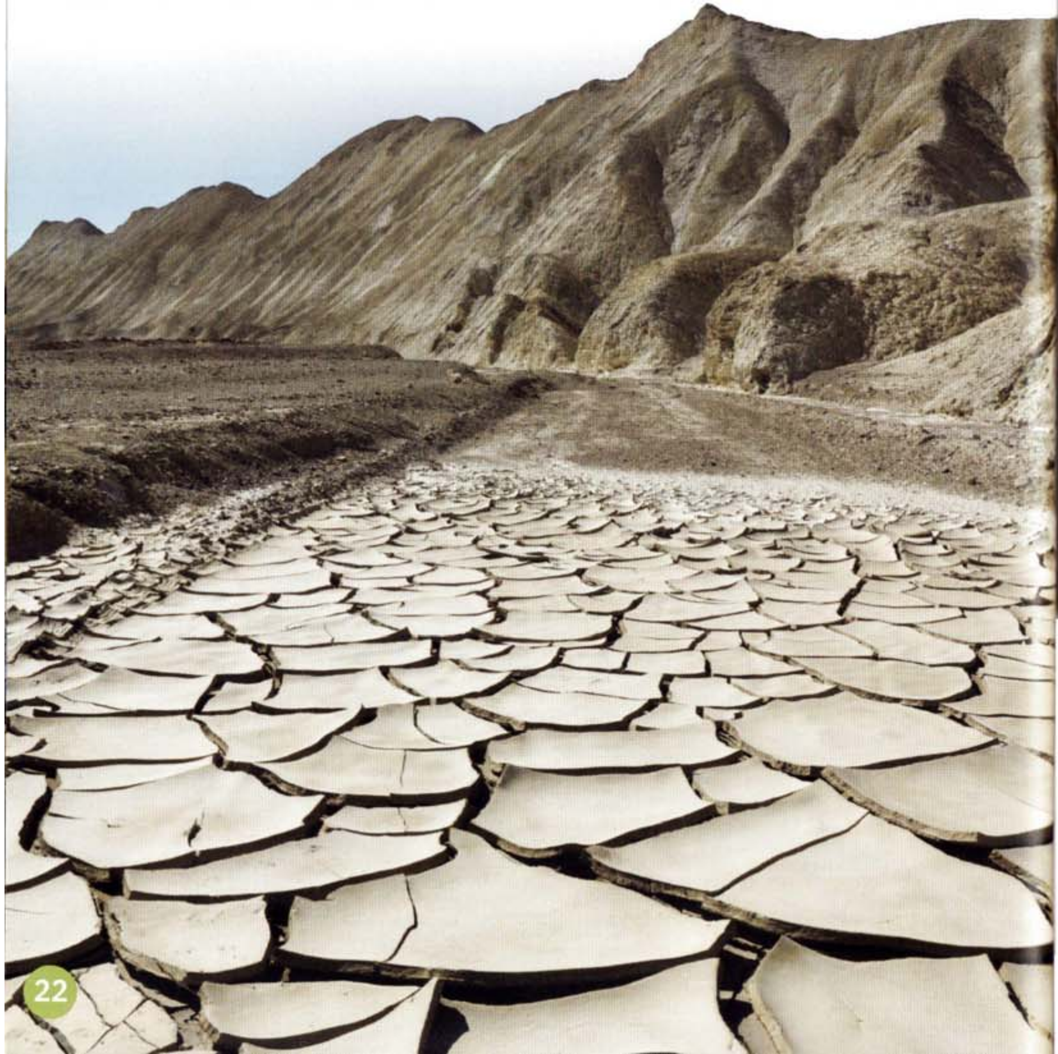
The water goes into houses, and people have to leave their homes. Sometimes they have to get on the roof of their house to wait for help. Cars and people can't get into the area to help. The police and firefighters rescue people with boats and helicopters.

Floods 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!

Go to pages 42–43 for activities.

Picture Dictionary


beaver


cave


clean


clothes


dirty


dishes


diving


electricity


flood


flush


food


fruit


glacier


glass

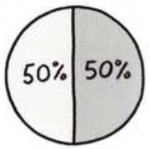

ground


grow


ice


lake


ocean



percent
(%)


plants


polar
ice cap


river


rocks


roof


sailing

salt


sea

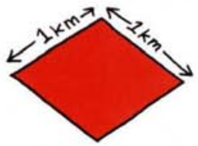

ship


shower


skeleton


skin


soil



square
kilometer


stream


sunburnt


surfing


vegetables


waterskiing


waves