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Earth's Water



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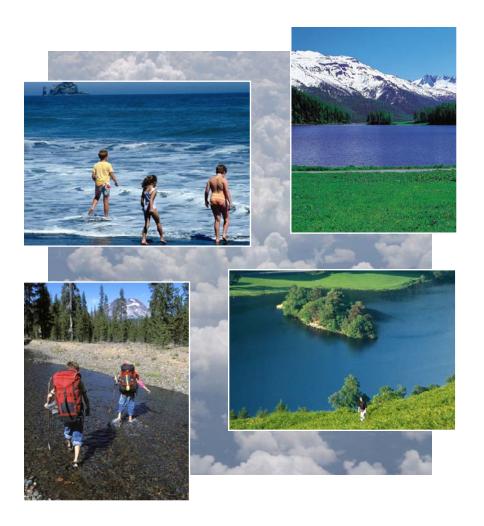
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Water Everywhere

Water is in ponds, lakes, and oceans.

It flows in rivers and streams.

It is in the air and frozen as snow and ice.



The dark parts in this picture of Earth are water.

Most of Earth is covered with water. Plants and animals need water to live.



What are some ways you use Earth's water?



Each of these containers holds four cups of water.

Different Forms of Water

Most of the water we see is a **liquid**. Liquid water takes the shape of the container it is in.

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Ice can be carved into many shapes.

Not all water is liquid.

When water gets very cold, it **freezes**.

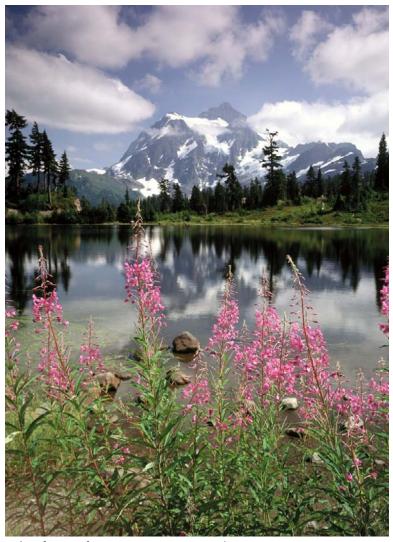
It becomes **solid**.

Solid water is called ice.



Sheets of ice cover Earth's South Pole.

Much of Earth's frozen water is at the North and South Poles.



What forms of water can you see in this picture?

Some of Earth's water is **invisible**. It is in the air.

This water is a **gas**.



The sunlight heats up the snow, and the snowman melts.

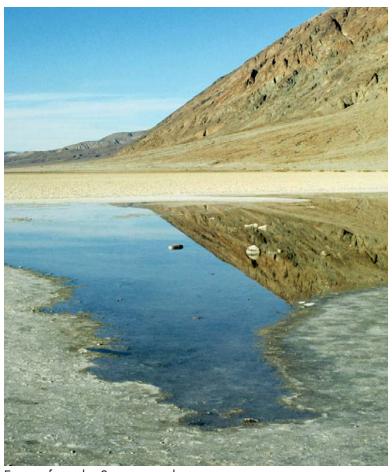
Changing Water

Water is always changing.

When frozen water is heated, it **melts**. It changes to a liquid.

When liquid water gets cold, it freezes. It changes to ice.

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Energy from the Sun causes the water to evaporate.

Have you ever seen a puddle of water dry up on a hot day? Energy from the Sun changed the liquid water into a gas.

This is called **evaporation**.



Clouds drop water on the desert as rain.

When invisible water in the air gets cold, it can make clouds.
Clouds are tiny drops of liquid water.
Those drops can get bigger.
Then they fall as rain.







Water Is Important

Rain keeps plants alive.

We fight fires with water.

Animals take baths in water.





It is important to take care of Earth's water.

Polluted water makes people, plants, and animals sick.

Would you want to drink and play in polluted water?

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Glossary

evaporation (n.) process of drying up that changes liquid to gas (p. 12) gets so cold that it turns into freezes (v.) a solid from a liquid (p. 8) an invisible substance that gas (n.) can change shape and size (p. 10)invisible (adj.) unable to be seen (p. 10) a substance that takes the liquid (n.) shape of the container it is in and keeps its size (p. 7) turns from a solid to liquid melts (v.) when heated up (p. 11) made dirty or harmful (p. 15) **polluted** (adj.) a substance that keeps its solid (n.) shape and size (p. 8)

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