



**What should I already know?**

- The water cycle.
- The journey of a river.
- The importance of rivers.
- What water pollution is.

**What will I know by the end of the unit?**

How is water distributed across the globe?

- 75% of the Earth is covered in water.
- Up to 97% of the Earth's water is sea salt water.
- Humans can only drink fresh water and not saltwater.
- Desert regions in the World have very little rainfall, so very little grows.



**What is a water supply?**

- Your water comes from one of three places:
  - surface water (rain water)
  - groundwater (water found underground)
  - water companies or utilities (who make profit by looking after the pipes water flows through).



- Water will arrive at your house through pipes and can be switched off at the stopcock.

**How can water pose a danger?**

- Water containing sewage or pollution (such as chemicals) is undrinkable. Drinking dirty water can make you ill.
- Clean water has not always been easily accessible in the UK so pipes were built by water companies to carry clean water to our homes.
- Droughts can be dangerous in many ways: access to clean water is reduced, food shortages, economic difficulties, damages to wildlife and wildfires.
- Floods often occur quickly due to heavy rainfall. They pose many dangers: pollution can be carried into clean water sources, electrical hazards, drowning and destroyed homes.
- Water in the wild can be dangerous, you should never swim in a reservoir and should do research on areas that are safe to swim in.



**Vocabulary**

downpipe	a pipe to carry rainwater from a roof to a drain
drought	a time that an area receives a smaller than average rainfall
flooding	when normally dry land is covered in a large amount of water
fresh water	water with no salt in it
hydro-electrical dam	electricity is generated when water in the dam flows
irrigation	the supply of water to farms and crops
lake	a large area of water that is surrounded by land
pollution	a harmful material
river	a large natural flow of water
salt water	water in the sea is made up of 3% salt
sea	the salt water that covers most of the Earth's surface
sewage water	waste water from homes; including toilet and shower water
stopcock	a device used to stop water from flowing through a pipe



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