

Silvana Sardi

THE WONDERS OF WATER

There is no life without water

Downloadable
**Audio
Files**

Book brief

Some quotes about water to give you an idea of a few of the things you will read about in this book.

- 1** *'Thousands have lived without love,
not one without water.'*

W. H. Auden
British poet

- 2** *'Water is life and clean water
means health.'*

Audrey Hepburn
British actress and UNICEF Goodwill Ambassador
from 1988 to 1993 for Children's Rights

- 3** *'Water is the driver of nature.'*

Leonardo da Vinci
Painter, engineer, scientist and more

- 4** *"When the well is dry,
we'll know the worth of water."*

Benjamin Franklin
One of the Founding Fathers of the United States

- 5** *'If there is magic on this planet,
it is contained in water.'*

Loren Eiseley
American philosopher and nature writer

Contents

6	Before you read
8	Chapter 1 <i>Water is Life</i>
16	Activities
18	Chapter 2 <i>The Human Body</i>
26	Activities
28	Chapter 3 <i>The Dangers of Water</i>
40	Activities
42	Chapter 4 <i>The Wonders of Water</i>
50	Activities
52	Chapter 5 <i>Water and Sports</i>
60	Activities
62	Test Yourself
63	Syllabus



Before you read

Vocabulary

1 Match the pictures with the words.

- a pond
- b lake
- c drop
- d waterfall
- e river
- f condensation
- g canal
- h puddle
- i vapour

1 ☐



2 ☐



3 ☐



4 ☐



5 ☐



6 ☐



7 ☐



8 ☐



9 ☐



Writing

2 Complete the sentences with some of the words (singular or plural forms) from exercise 1.

- 1 Children usually love jumping in as they walk along the road on a rainy day.
- 2 My neighbours have a small in their garden, where they keep some fish.
- 3 The Nile in Africa is the longest in the world.
- 4 The noise of the was very loud as the water came down over the high rocks.
- 5 The Suez is the shortest shipping route between Europe and Asia.
- 6 The Dead Sea is actually a, and has much more salt than others in the world.

Speaking – Pair Work

21st
Century
Skills



3 Discuss the questions with a partner and write your answers.

1 Do you think people who live near the sea are lucky? Why? / Why not?

.....
.....

2 What do you do on a rainy day?

.....
.....

3 What do you use water for in your home?

.....
.....

4 Has there ever been a time when you've been afraid of water, for example while swimming or during a storm?

.....
.....

Listening

A2 KEY

3 4 Listen to part of Chapter 1. Complete the sentences below with the missing information.

Water can be a gas, a liquid or a (1)

The South Pole is (2) than the North Pole.

At the South Pole, the temperature in summer is about (3)

The Arctic is an (4) surrounded by land.

Antarctica is the (5) continent in the world.

WATER IS LIFE

- ▶ 2 All forms of life on Earth need water. Without water, nothing can survive¹, which is why 'Water is Life'. Let's imagine for a moment that you're speaking to someone who doesn't know what water is. How can you explain what it's like? What shape is it? What colour is it? What does it smell² like? What does it feel like? Hmm... not easy to find the words to describe it, right? Now, here's an even more difficult question to answer:

Where does water come from?

You probably answered, 'from the tap³ in the kitchen or bathroom at home', but before that? Don't worry, because this is a question that many scientists are still trying to find the answer to.

1 **survive** live

2 **smell** you use your nose to smell

3 **tap**





The four planets closest to the Sun (Mercury, Venus, Earth and Mars) are known as the Inner Planets of the Solar System. The four farthest away from the Sun (Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus, and Neptune) are in the Outer Solar System.



Our oceans cover about 71% of the Earth's surface¹. From outer space², all this water makes it look like a blue ball, so that's why Earth is often called the 'Blue Planet'. So how did this water arrive on our planet?

Some scientists believe that our water came from comets (small icy objects with a long 'tail' of gas) and asteroids (small rocks) that first formed in the Outer Solar System. Then, they hit our planet Earth as it was forming. Others think our water came from a special group of meteorites (pieces of rock or metal). They say that billions of years ago, Earth was a real water world completely covered by a global³ ocean, with very little or no land at all.

However, other scientists believe that maybe water has been on Earth since the planet formed, without any help from bodies from outer space. These studies come up with new ideas every time, so we'll just have to wait and see who's right in the future. ■

1 **surface** the top or outside part of something

2 **outer space** where all the stars and planets are

3 **global** worldwide

The Blue Planet



Asteroids, Comets and Meteorites





3 Water in its different forms

The North and South Poles get no daylight during winter because of their position.

As we all know, water can take the form of a gas, a liquid or a solid (ice). There's usually more ice in winter, but ice is present all year at the North and South Poles and on the tops of high mountains. So, which pole do you think is colder?

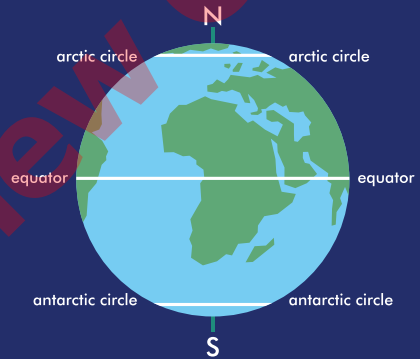
Most people would probably say the North Pole is colder, just because we usually think of the north as being colder than the south, but surprise, surprise, it's actually the South Pole that's colder, with temperatures in winter around -60°C and about -28°C in summer! This is because the North Pole is situated in the middle of the Arctic Ocean, which is covered in sea ice for most of the year, while the South Pole is on the continent of Antarctica. Therefore, the Arctic is an ocean surrounded by land, while Antarctica is land surrounded by ocean. Water cools more slowly than land, so this helps the Arctic to stay warmer than the Antarctic. What's more, the Arctic is at sea level, while Antarctica is the highest continent in the world, and the higher you go, the colder it gets. ■



A Polar Bear in the Arctic

The North and South Poles

Polar bears live in the Arctic, while penguins live in the Antarctic.



Penguins in the Antarctic



►4 The Water Cycle

The water cycle is how water moves around the Earth in its different states¹. Our oceans, rivers and lakes are examples of water in its liquid form, and this form can even be found underground. Solid ice is found in glaciers², snow and, as said before, at the North and South Poles, while water vapour³ is found in the Earth's atmosphere⁴.

One of the most famous glaciers in the world is the Perito Moreno Glacier in Patagonia, Argentina. Thousands of tourists visit this UNESCO World Heritage site every year.

There are four main parts of the water cycle: Evaporation, Condensation, Precipitation and Collection. First, water evaporates, becoming vapour. Then, this invisible⁵ water vapour rises in warm air, cools down, and becomes clouds. Clouds are made up of tiny⁶ water droplets⁷, and when they become too heavy, these droplets fall back to Earth in the form of rain. Rain is then collected by oceans and rivers, and the water cycle starts all over again. When temperatures

- 1 **state** form
- 2 **glacier** a slow-moving mass or river of ice
- 3 **vapour** water in the form of a gas
- 4 **atmosphere** (here) the gases around our planet

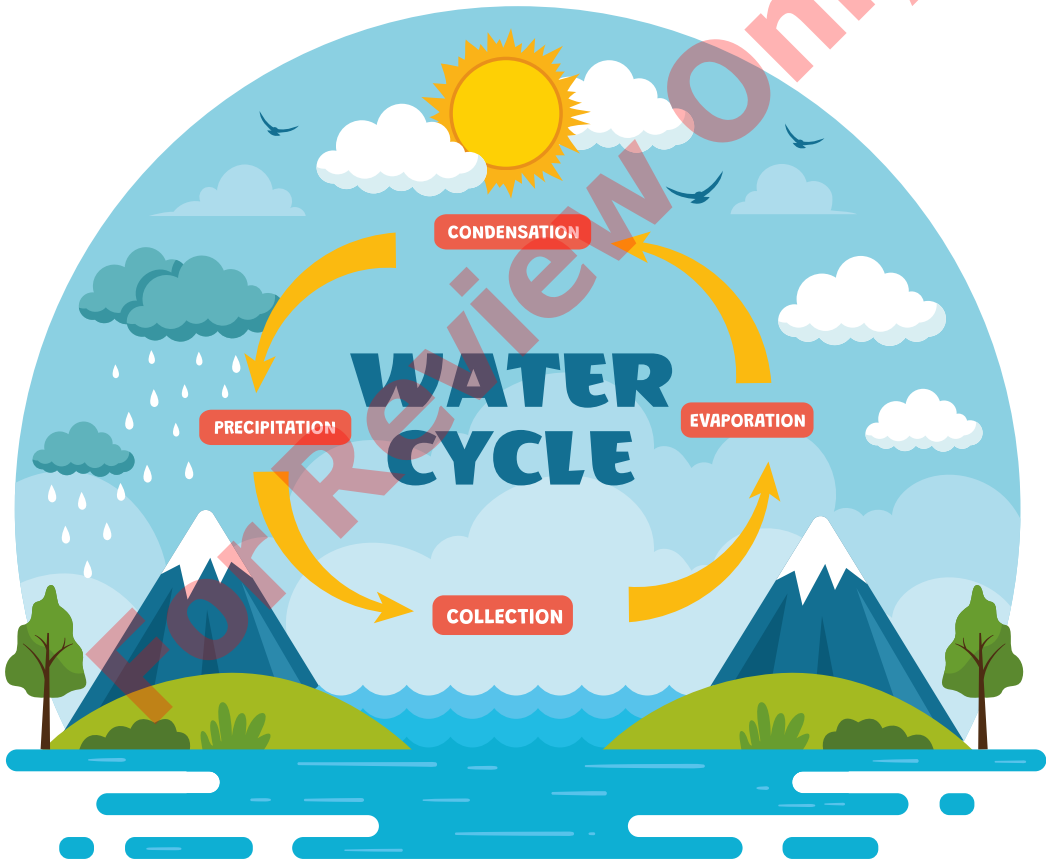
- 5 **invisible** that cannot be seen
- 6 **tiny** very, very small

- 7 **droplet**



The Wonders of Water

are below zero, water vapour condenses directly into ice without going through the liquid stage, and this is when we get snow. So, the water cycle can be thought of as nature's way of recycling¹ water! 



¹ **recycle** use again

Reading

A2 KEY

1 Choose A, B or C to complete the sentences about Chapter 1.

- 1 Without water, can survive.
A something **B** nothing **C** anything
- 2 Our oceans cover about 71% of the Earth's
A surface **B** top **C** outside
- 3 are small icy objects with a long 'tail' of gas.
A Asteroids **B** Meteorites **C** Comets
- 4 The water is how water moves around the Earth in its different states.
A circle **B** cycle **C** round
- 5 Water vapour is found in the Earth's
A atmosphere **B** temperature **C** colouring
- 6 Water vapour rises in warm air and then cools down and becomes
A fog **B** rain **C** clouds

Writing

A2 KEY

2 Use the three pictures to write a story (at least 35 words).

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

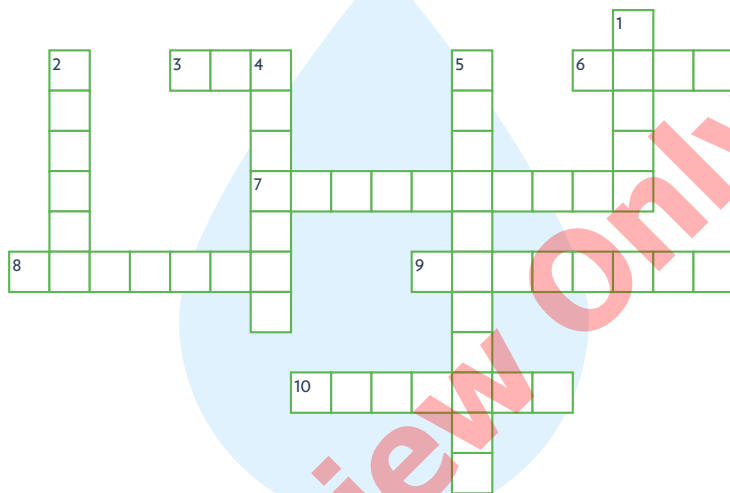
.....

.....



Test Yourself

Complete the crossword about what you have read in this book.



Across

- 3 You turn this on to wash your hands.
- 6 The colour of our planet from outer space.
- 7 You become this if your body loses too much water.
- 8 There is Run-of-River hydropower and hydropower.
- 9 These creatures are like the sirens in Greek mythology.
- 10 Cloud involves adding chemicals to clouds to trigger rainfall.

Down

- 1 This happens when a dam breaks.
- 2 A very hot place where it hardly ever rains.
- 4 These form on roads on a rainy day.
- 5 In this sport, you swim face down on the surface of the water.