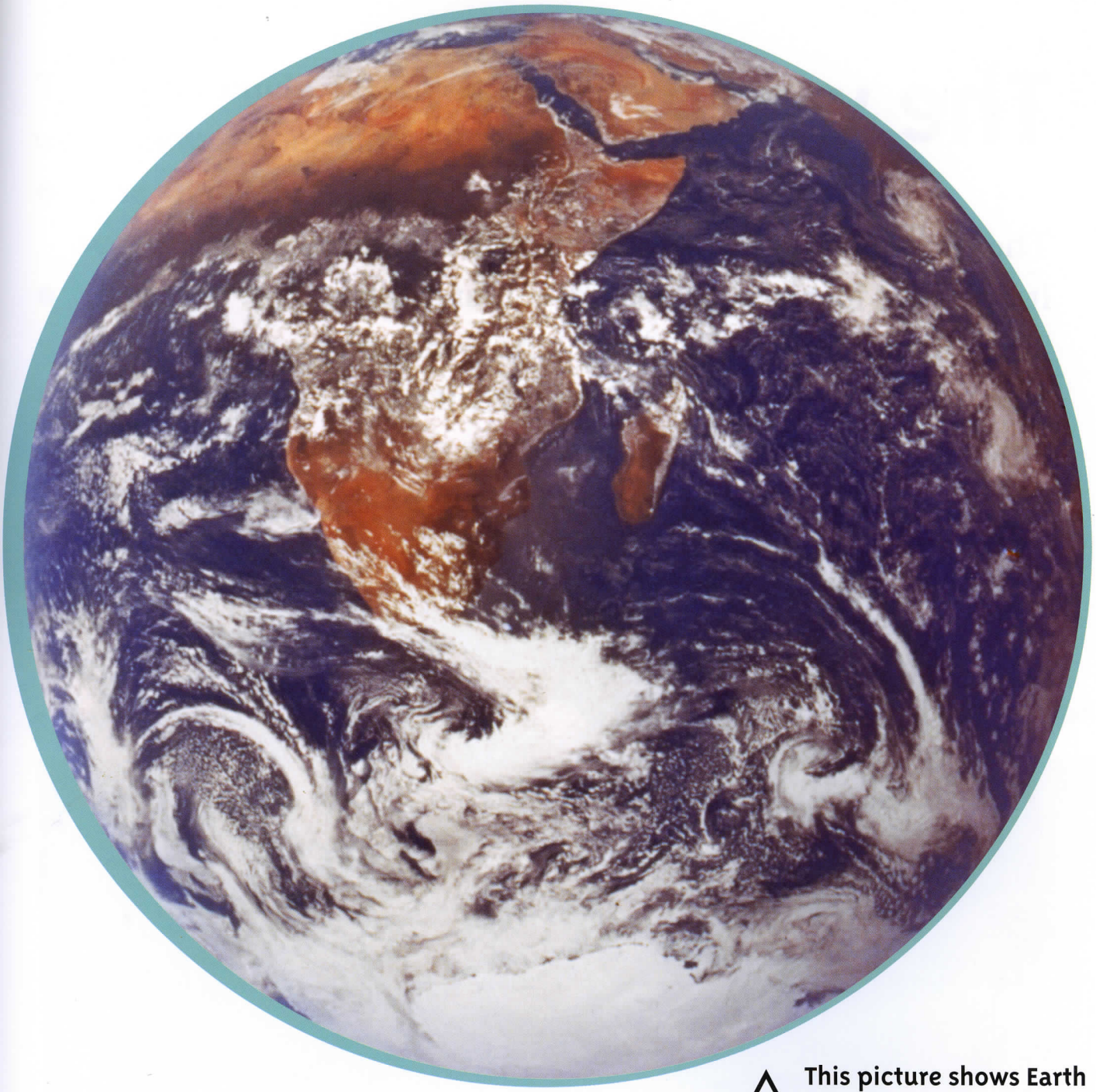
Contents

All about water

Water has no taste, no smell, and no color. At first glance, you might think that water is quite boring. Water is actually very important! Without water, we could not survive.

△ More than half of your body is made of water. You lose water every day. The water you lose must be replaced by more water.



△ This picture shows Earth from space. The green and brown areas are land. The blue areas are water. The white areas are clouds and ice. There is a lot of water on Earth!

Much of the Earth's **surface** is covered in water. Water is found in oceans, seas, lakes, rivers, and streams. Ice and snow are made of frozen water.

The water cycle

The amount of water on Earth never changes. It does not increase or decrease. Water moves from place to place. Your drinking water may have once tumbled down a **waterfall** on the other side of the world.

△ Water is constantly moving. This water will eventually reach an ocean.

The **water cycle** describes the way that water moves from place to place.

- The sun warms ocean water, causing **water vapor** to rise into the air.
- As water vapor rises and cools, it turns into tiny **droplets** of water.
- The droplets of water form clouds.
- Wind blows the clouds over land.
- When the droplets of water in the clouds become too big and heavy, they fall as rain.
- Water flows down streams and rivers until it reaches oceans again.

▽ **When these clouds blow toward high ground, rain will fall.**

Why save water?

Why do we need to save water? The answer is simple—there is plenty of water on Earth, but we can only use a small amount of it. It is important that we conserve all of the water on Earth.

△ The salty water in oceans cannot be used for drinking or washing. Drinking a lot of ocean water could make you very sick.

△ Each person on Earth needs a lot of water.

There is another problem. Earth's **population** is growing bigger every year, but there is no extra water. By using less water, we can make sure that there is enough water for everyone.

FACT!

In 1980, Earth's population was 4.5 billion. By 2005, 6.5 billion people were living on Earth!

Glossary

acid rain Polluted water that falls as rain
cactus A plant covered in prickles that grows in hot, dry places
chemicals Powerful liquids or powders that can be used for a lot of things, including cleaning
cistern A small tank of water above a toilet
coarse Made of large, rough pieces
dam A strong wall built across a river valley to hold back water
destroy To break or damage something so that it is beyond repair
droplet A tiny amount of liquid
environment Everything around us that affects how we live
factories Buildings where people make things with machines
flushed Washed away with water
germs Tiny living things that sometimes cause diseases
ground water Water that is found underground
piped When a liquid or gas is sent down a tube

pollution Dirty or unhealthy air, land, or water
population The number of people who live in a country or a place
reservoir A man-made lake
sewage plant A place where dirty toilet water is cleaned
sewers Pipes that take dirty toilet water away to sewage plants
submarine A ship that can travel underwater
surface The outside or top of something
valley A deep dip in the land, usually containing a flowing river
wastewater treatment works A place where dirty water is cleaned
water butt A large barrel that catches rainwater
water cycle How water moves around Earth
waterfall A stream or river of water falling from a high place to a low place
water vapor Tiny droplets of water in the air
well A hole dug to get water out of the ground

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