

KIDS for the BAY

A Project of Earth Island Institute

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Experiments and More

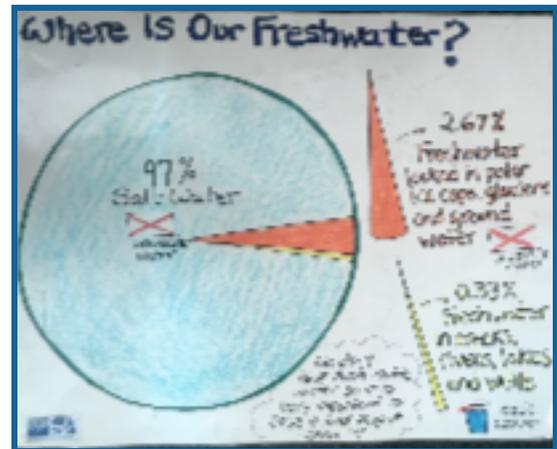
All the Fresh Water in the World

Activity Summary

Learn how much fresh water is available in the world, and why it is important to conserve water!

Directions

1. Google a picture of the earth. Make a prediction about how much salt water (the blue) is covering the Earth.
2. Fill a clear container with 2 liters of water (or 8.5 cups). This represents all of the water in the world.
3. Out of all the water in the world, 97% is salt water and 3% is fresh water. Take 4 tablespoons from the 2 liter jug and pour it in a clear cup. This represents all the fresh water in the world!
4. Did you know that most of the fresh water is unavailable to us? About 2.67% of fresh water is locked away in ice caps, glaciers, and ground water which means that only 0.33% is available to us. [Bonus]: locate a glacier on the photo of earth. *Hint: it is where emperor penguins live!
5. Dip your finger into the cup of water, lift it out, and let one drop drip into the palm of your hand. This represents all of the water available to humans, plants, and animals all over the world! Does this seem like very little water to you?
6. Compare the drop of water in your hand to the big jug of water. Now think about what we use fresh water for, besides drinking. We use fresh water in our sinks, showers, toilets, and more! What can YOU do to help save water? Come up with an idea and tell a friend or adult!



Location

Somewhere in your home or kitchen, this can also be done outside. Ask an adult for where to set up.

Supplies

- One large clear container and one clear cup
- 1 cup measurement and a tablespoon
- [Optional]: Notebook

Additional resources and related activities

- If you enjoyed this activity, follow it up with the KIDS for the BAY water log activity!

Share your experience with us!

Email kidsforthebay@gmail.com to share photos, videos, comments or questions.

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