

stronger. The firemen try to drown all the fire before much harm is done.

Our great God knew all about our need for water. He put many billions of gallons of water on the earth. In fact, the earth is covered with almost three times as much water as land.

We can see the water in streams, rivers, lakes, and oceans. Big cities often get their water from rivers and lakes. Although the ocean has much more water than rivers and lakes, only a few cities get their water from the ocean. Can you guess why? Ocean water is a solution of salt. Salt is dissolved in the ocean water. The people would die if they drank salty

water. The cities that use ocean water must first take out the salt.

Some water is under the ground. If you live in a small town or in the country, probably your water is pumped from a well deep in the ground. Some people live near a spring where the water flows out by itself.

Some of the water is above the earth. It is waiting in the clouds. Someday it will fall to the ground as rain or snow.

Thank God for water. He put just enough water on the earth. He put it in the best places. He gave it the right properties. How wise God is!

Test Your Reading

Did you understand what you read? Find out by giving the answers. Number your paper from 1 to 10.

- List three ways we use water. (Can you think of any ways not given in the lesson?)
- How much water do we need every day?
- Name three things that are made with water. (Again, try to think of things not given in the lesson.)
- Name four properties of water.
- Why do you think potatoes get wrinkled after a long while? (Think about what you learned today.)

Choose the best ending for each sentence. Write the letter on your paper.

- The word **solution** means
 - water used for washing.
 - something dissolved in water.
 - the water in food.

Answers for "Test Your Reading"

- (Any three) Drinking, washing, making useful things (such as concrete, sprays, and paste), making solutions, putting out fires, fishing, watering crops, traveling by boat, etc. (3)
- About eight glasses (one-half gallon) (1)
- (Any three) Concrete, paint, paper, sprays, paste, etc. (3)
- It is clear. It tastes good. It feels wet. It will not burn. (4)
- Potatoes get wrinkled because they lose water and dry out. (1)
- b

Unit Project

Make a little "water world" for a unit project. It can help to make the lessons about the water cycle and erosion more real and understandable. It is also rewarding for the class to work together on such a project.

If you use a box, first line it with the heavy sheet of plastic to make it watertight. Actually, a large, shallow box would be better than a small, deep aquarium.

The soil should be damp so that it can be packed, but it should not be so muddy that it cannot be graded easily. Put the soil into the watertight box. Use the photo as your guide to form some hills and mountains. Form a bowl-shaped hole up in the hills for a lake. Form a winding ditch from the lake to the one end of the box which is the ocean.

Materials needed:

- large aquarium or large flat box
- heavy plastic sheet (if you use a box)

- soil
- green sponge
- plastic food wrap
- bucket of fine topsoil
- moss
- toothpicks
- wooden blocks or cardboard folded to form houses

Line the lake and the river with plastic food wrap. Allow the wrap to extend on all sides of the lake and river about an extra inch or two. Next, cover the sides of the lake and river with another half inch of soil. Make sure the land slopes toward the river. Pack the soil well and wet it down with a clothes sprinkler or by sprinkling water on it with your fingers.

Pour some water into the lake, and watch the water clean the river of any bits of loose soil as it flows into the ocean.

Cut or tear off small pieces of green sponge. Push toothpicks through them and stick them into