

WORLD WATER DAY

Level: Upper intermediate (equivalent to CEFR level B2)

Age: Teenagers / Adults

Time: 60 minutes

Summary: This lesson and infographic look at interesting facts and figures about water to coincide with World Water Day on March 22.

Materials: One copy of the worksheet per student; access to a projector or IWB to project the infographic from onestopenglish.

HOW TO USE THE LESSON

1 Ask students if they know of any important dates in March (national dates, anniversaries, special holidays). If they have access to the internet tell them to do a quick search. Who can find the most special days? Tell them that one day in March is dedicated to one of the most precious substances on the planet. Can they guess what it is? Tell them that it's World Water Day.

2 Give out the worksheet and ask students to do exercise 1. It may help to read through each sentence with the whole class listening and ask them to just think of their answer. Then put students in pairs and tell them to tell each other about their experiences.

3 Allow students a moment to read through the information on the infographic. Then tell them to do exercise 2 which focuses on the information in the graph. This should be quite easy.

4 At this stage you can focus more on some of the words themselves in the infographic in exercise 3. Do the first one as an example, then let students do the others. Ask students if they know what H₂O means (the chemical formula for water, which consists of hydrogen and oxygen in a ratio of two parts hydrogen to one part oxygen).

5 Direct students to exercise 4. You may wish to do the first one together as a group. Tell students to do the others, writing out a sentence to describe the differences. Check answers as a whole class.

6 Now ask students to complete the sentences in exercise 5. This should be easier once they understand the different words in 4.

7 Put students into small groups or pairs to do this task. Explain that an acrostic can have one word or a short phrase (with the first word beginning with the key letter). Give them an example to show how acrostics work. Write the following on the board:

Weekends
Of
Really
Lively
Dancing

Explain that the initial letters of each word in the sentence make a word, in this case world. Students then work to create their own acrostics for the word *water*. They do not have to be connected with the topic, but they should make either a sentence or phrase in order for it to be memorable.

Key:

1 *Students' own answers.*

2 1. *March 22; the United Nations.*
2. *It carries nutrients and oxygen via the blood.*
3. *The brain is 75% water and bones are up to 22% water.*
4. *97.5% (the other 2.5% is freshwater)*
5. *True*

3 1. *nutrient;* 2. *spinal column;* 3. *lean;*
4. *appropriated;* 5. *flush;* 6. *average*
7. *H₂O*

4 1. *Both are bodies of water; a stream is smaller and narrower than a river.*
2. *Both are used to water plants or gardens; a hose is long and made of plastic, a can is made of metal.*
3. *Both are natural disasters; a drought is an absence of water a flood is an excess of water.*



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4. Both describe how water moves; to flow is to move smoothly and continuously and to trickle is to move slowly and in a small amount.

5. Both describe how wet something or someone is; damp is cold and wet, soaking is very wet.

5 1. trickle; 2. watering hose; 3. drought;
4. soaking; 5. river

6 Students' own answers. Examples are:
*We're **All** Tired – **Early** Rest.*
*Wind **Always** Takes **Every** **Rainbow**.*

RELATED WEBSITES

The following websites might be useful for either you or your students.

http://www.epa.gov/watersense/about_us/facts.html (United States Environment Protection Agency Water Statistics)

<http://ga.water.usgs.gov/edu/propertyyou.html> (US Geological Survey Water Facts)

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/news/datablog/2013/jan/10/how-much-water-food-production-waste>



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1 Discuss in pairs. Can you remember the last time:

- it rained really heavily?
- you swam in a pool?
- you were on a boat?
- you were by the sea?
- you had a problem with water in your house?
- you drank a glass of really cold water?

2 Read the infographic and answer the questions.

1. When is World Water Day? Who decides this? _____
2. How does water nourish and protect the body? _____
3. How much of the brain consists of water? And bones? _____
4. How much of the planet's water is sea water? _____
5. Producing 1 kg of beef uses 10 times more water than producing 1 kg of rice. True or false?

3 Read the infographic again and find words in the graph that mean ...

1. a substance in food and liquids that plants, people and animals need to live and grow

2. the scientific word for the *backbone* _____
3. with very little fat _____
4. taken and used for yourself _____
5. to make water pass through a toilet _____
6. a typical amount _____
7. another way of saying *water* _____

4 What do each pair of words have in common? What is the difference between them?

1. river / stream _____
2. watering hose / watering can _____
3. drought / flood _____
4. flow / trickle _____
5. damp / soaking _____



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5 Complete the sentences with the correct form of a word from exercise 4.

1. The leak in the pipe had finally stopped and now there was only a _____ of water.
2. Please remember to roll up the _____ once you have finished in the garden.
3. The government is saying that there is no relief in sight to this summer's _____. There will be no rain for at least another two weeks.
4. We rushed into the house, our clothes all _____ wet.
5. She got out of the car and breathed in the cool air. She could hear the roaring of the _____ close by as it joined the lake.

6 An acrostic is a message in which the first letter in each line form a word. Acrostics can be used to help you remember things. Can you make an acrostic with the letters below?

- W _____
- A _____
- T _____
- E _____
- R _____



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INFOGRAPHIC

H₂O

March 22 is United Nations World Water Day

Water and the Human Body

Blood

Water carries oxygen and nutrients to all parts of the body. Blood is, in fact, 92% water.

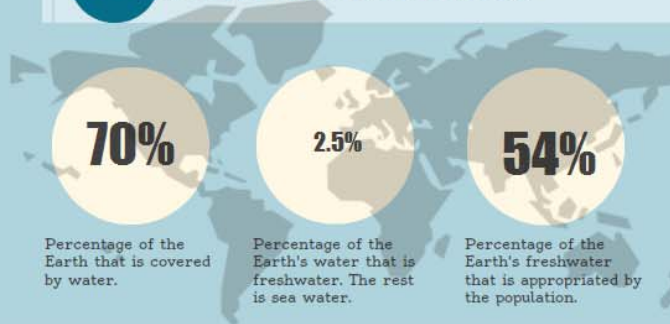
Brain

As well as being essential protection for much of the body's sensitive parts (e.g. the eyes and the spinal column), water makes up 75% of the brain.

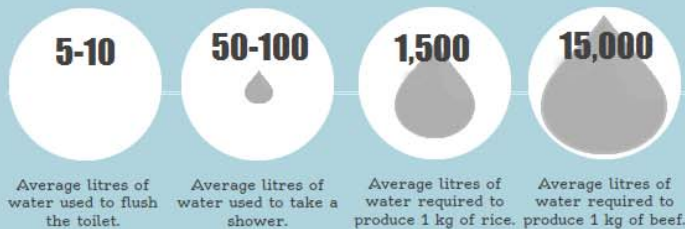
Muscles and bones

Lean muscle tissue contains about 75% water by weight, and even bones are 22% water.

H₂O Water and the Planet



H₂O Water and how we use it



Save water
The world is in our hands.



Piktochart