

Limited Stocks Of Water 1

Complete the task and read the information.

A. Before reading the information below, complete the 'Before Reading' section of the Anticipation Guide. When you have read the information below, record how accurate you were by completing the 'After Reading' section of the Anticipation Guide.

ANTICIPATION GUIDE - GLOBAL WATER STOCKS

Selected Statements	Before Reading	After Reading
1. The world's population currently stands at four billion.	I think this statement is ... <input type="checkbox"/> True <input type="checkbox"/> False	I think this statement is ... <input type="checkbox"/> True <input type="checkbox"/> False
2. The melting of polar ice caps will increase the world's fresh water supply.	I think this statement is ... <input type="checkbox"/> True <input type="checkbox"/> False	I think this statement is ... <input type="checkbox"/> True <input type="checkbox"/> False
3. Fresh water stocks are readily available worldwide.	I think this statement is ... <input type="checkbox"/> True <input type="checkbox"/> False	I think this statement is ... <input type="checkbox"/> True <input type="checkbox"/> False
4. Nine countries in the world hold half the world's water.	I think this statement is ... <input type="checkbox"/> True <input type="checkbox"/> False	I think this statement is ... <input type="checkbox"/> True <input type="checkbox"/> False
5. A significant increase in the world's population will not affect fresh water availability.	I think this statement is ... <input type="checkbox"/> True <input type="checkbox"/> False	I think this statement is ... <input type="checkbox"/> True <input type="checkbox"/> False



GLOBAL STOCKS OF FRESH WATER

It is estimated that the world's population currently stands at six billion. It is thought by some scientists that in the next 40 years the world's population will double. This means that there will still be the same amount of water in the world but the human demand for it will be twice as much. Already, only 3% of the world's water can be used directly for human consumption.

Fresh water is not evenly distributed throughout the world. Half of the world's water supply is located in just nine countries: the USA, Canada, Brazil, Colombia, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Russia, India, China and Indonesia. Even in these

countries some people go without clean drinking water due to a lack of sanitation. The amount of fresh water in the world is estimated at about 10 million cubic kilometres, it is mostly contained in polar ice caps and underground aquifers. The rest comes from the following four areas:

- rainfall: 119,000 cubic kilometres;
- lakes: 91,000 cubic kilometres;
- human-made reservoirs: 5,000 cubic kilometres;
- rivers: 2,120 cubic kilometres.

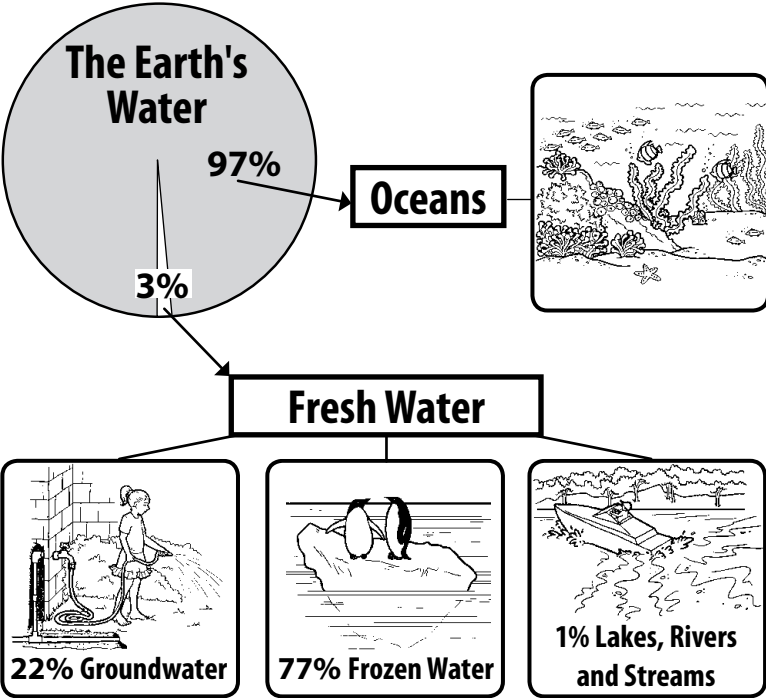
There is some concern that if global warming continues to melt glaciers in polar regions the amount of available fresh

water may actually decrease. The first threat comes from the fresh water in the glaciers melting and merging into the oceans' salt water. The second threat comes from an overall increase in the oceans' volume from the melted glaciers - two thirds of the world's fresh water is locked up in glaciers which could cause a rise in the sea level resulting in the contamination of fresh water sources along coastal regions.



Limited Stocks Of Water 2

The information on this page and on page 21 will help you to complete the tasks below.



A. Use the information in the diagram to explain the current status of fresh water available in the world.

B. List the nine countries in the world that hold the most water.

1.	4.	7.
2.	5.	8.
3.	6.	9.

C. What Am I? Solve the riddles.

1. I hold 77% of the Earth's fresh water but nobody can drink from me.
2. I am under the ground but not everyone knows that I am there for them to drink.
3. I currently have six billion inhabitants but that will double in the next 40 years.
4. I flow on the Earth's surface for all to see but I hold only 1% of the world's fresh water.
5. I hold 97% of the world's water but no matter how thirsty you are you can't drink me.

Challenge

D. A group of islands known as the Maldives have already been affected by rising sea levels. Find out how this group of islands has been affected. On the back of this sheet or in your workbook write down what they have done to adjust to this situation.

