

# The Amount of Water on Earth

How to figure out  
386,000,000,000,000,000  
liters of water on Earth?



1

Let's pretend 1L of water represents all the water on Earth.



2

Remove one large tablespoon.

This represents all the freshwater on Earth.



3

Let one drop of that water fall.

This represents the directly accessible drinking water.

Drinking water is barely one drop of the whole

You can now see how precious drinking water is, we must protect it and not waste it.

## Water is mostly on the surface

**Total water represents about 0.02% of the Earth's volume— it is small!**

On the surface: Oceans, seas, lakes, rivers, glaciers.

In the ground: Soil moisture, groundwater (aquifers), and small amounts trapped in rocks.



Where does our drinking water come from?

Depending on the region, it comes from:

**Groundwater**  
(the most common source)

**Rivers**

**Lakes or dams**

**Desalination** of seawater  
(rare, mostly in desert areas)