



What's So Fresh About Fresh Water?



by Ellen Lawrence

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Water in Our Lives

Every day, we use lots of fresh water.

We splash it on our bodies and brush our teeth with it.

We also drink it and use it for growing food and cooking.

So what exactly is fresh water, and where does it come from?

How many ways do you
use water each day?
Make a list in a notebook.





A person living
in the United
States uses up to 100
gallons (379 l) of fresh
water each day. That's
enough water to fill
three bathtubs!



Fresh or Salty?

There are two main types of water on Earth—salt water and fresh water.

Salt water is found in oceans and seas, and in some lakes.

It contains lots of tiny **particles** of salt that are too small to see.


Fresh water contains fewer salt particles.

It's found in streams, rivers, ponds, and in most lakes.



salty ocean water

Where do you think the salt in salt water comes from?
(The answer is on page 24.)



Only three
percent of the water
on Earth is fresh water.
Lake Baikal in Russia holds
more fresh water than
any other lake in the
world!

Lake Baikal