

Let's Investigate Water

Steps for Learning 1

Geography KS2 Year 3



Let's Investigate Water: Steps for Learning 1

Geography

Key Stage 2

Year 3

Key Questions

- where is water found?
- why is water so important?
- how do we use water?

Learning Outcomes

- to build an understanding of the importance of water as a resource
- to use a range of maps and images to research where water might be found
- to present information about where water might be found.

Curriculum Links

Purpose and Aims

- inspire in pupils a curiosity and fascination about the world

Human and Physical Geography

- describe and understand key aspects of the water cycle

Geographical Skills and Fieldwork

- use maps, atlases, globes and digital/computer mapping to locate and describe features

Big Ideas

- place
- space
- environment

Formative Assessment Opportunities

- observation skills from images
- making connection between locations and water

Key Vocabulary

Map. Environment. Sustainable. Water cycle/Hydrological cycle.

This can also be found at the end of this PDF in printable format for your working wall.



Resources

- Google Earth
- maps of local area, e.g. Ordnance Survey, Digimaps (<https://digimap.edina.ac.uk/>)
- photos of your local area
- post-it notes

Activities

1. See. Think. Wonder. Direct children to look at the image on the accompanying PowerPoint presentation and ask what they see. This is about providing details, for example:

- shirt colour
- which hand is holding the water
- the vessel material
- why might the child be thirsty

What is it that makes the children wonder? What can be seen in the background? What if there were no water for the child in the image to drink or use in any way?

2. Ask the children:

- what do they know about water?
- what are all the different ways we use water?
- where are all the different places that we find water?

Pupils should write/draw each of their individual ideas on post-it notes. Bring the class back together and discuss ideas and start to sort their ideas into categories. For example:

- hygiene uses: brushing teeth, washing hands, bath/shower, etc.
- places you might find water: on the coast, in rivers, puddles, clouds, in pipes, etc.

Build up a collective understanding that water is present in our everyday lives and that it is a precious resource.



3. Zoom in on the question, 'where is water found on Earth?'. Use a range of resources such as Google Earth (<https://www.google.co.uk/earth/>), maps and aerial photographs of your locality, the country and the world. (You can add these images to the PowerPoint presentation for your class, and replace the map of London with an image of your own area.) Challenge pupils to identify where water can be found. How is water represented on a map or in a photograph?
4. As a class, ask the pupils to share the resources that they used and what they found. Discuss the different sources of water, from streams and rivers to seas and oceans. Some students may be aware that polar regions have frozen water because of the climate.
5. End this Step for Learning by asking 'Where does water come from?' to ascertain if the pupils are aware of the water cycle. Record some of these responses on your Enquiry Wall for further discussion in the next set of Steps for Learning.

PowerPoint Presentation

The accompanying PowerPoint presentation can be displayed to enhance each of the activities. It has 10 slides.

- Slides 1 and 2 introduce the Step for Learning
- Slide 3 supports Activity 1. Display this image to prompt the detailed discussion and promote enquiry and curiosity in the classroom.
- Slide 4 supports Activity 2 and can be displayed while the children write their ideas on post-it notes. The two images can serve as a gentle prompt when thinking about uses of water and where it is found.
- Slides 5 and 6 support Activity 3 with a global map and a map of a city (London). You may well want to add images of your own.
- Slides 7 and 8 support Activity 4. Slide 8 can be displayed when showing the children that the polar regions have frozen water.
- Slide 9 displays a series of images which illustrate the water cycle (without giving it away!). You can display this while discussing 'Where does water come from?' with the children, which ends this Step for Learning.
- Slide 10 is the closing slide.



Let's Investigate Water KS2: Keywords Flashcards



Map

Environment

Sustainable

**Water cycle /
Hydrological
cycle**



Map



Environment





Sustainable





Water cycle / Hydrological cycle

