

Tap Water Quiz

This Tap Water Quiz is provided for utilities to use in newsletters or other customer communications. Teachers might want to use it as a way to engage their students in a discussion about water issues. Businesses and agencies might want to use it as a fun item to distribute to customers/employees about using and trusting tap water.

How much do you really know about the water on the planet and in your home? Take this true-or-false quiz and see the surprising answers below.

True or False?

1. Water is the only substance on Earth that occurs naturally in three forms: solid, liquid, gas.
2. More than 90 percent of the Earth's water is frozen or salty
3. Approximately 10 percent of the human body consists of water.
4. Of all the water on Earth, only one percent is fresh water.
5. One-third of the water consumed in a home is used in the bathroom.
6. A five minute shower uses 5-8 gallons of water.
7. 30 million gallons of water are required to produce a single day's supply of US newsprint.
8. Water regulates the temperatures of the Earth and the human body.
9. A person can live a month without water.
10. A small drip from a faucet can waste up to 3 gallons of water a day.
11. Over 70 percent of the world's supply of fresh water is found in glaciers.

Answers:

Unless otherwise noted, additional information on all questions and answers may be found at the US Environmental Protection Agency website at: http://www.epa.gov/safewater/kids/water_trivia_facts.html

1. True
2. True: 97% of the Earth's water is salty; 2% of the Earth's water is frozen.
3. False: the human body is approximately 60% water (Source: United States Geological Survey)
4. True
5. False: Two-thirds of the water used in the average home is used in the bathroom, mostly for flushing toilets, showering, and bathing. (Source: U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, http://www.epa.gov/region01/students/pdfs/www_intro.pdf)
6. False: The average five minute shower uses 15-25 gallons of water.
7. False: 300 million gallons are used to produce a single day's supply of US newsprint.
8. True
9. False: humans can live a month without food but only a week without water.
10. True (Source: American Water Works Association)
11. True (Source: Source: United States Geological Survey)

