



Water World

High School Level

Water is Earth's most abundant resource; specifically, water covers 70.9% of the Earth's surface. The water on earth is in both fresh and salt water forms; however, 97% of the water is salty, leaving only 3% being fresh water. As you take a journey through a fascinating collection of salt and fresh water creatures, think about how water is used and the importance of water on the planet.

Your visit today follows the journey of a drop of water. It falls from the sky, gently flowing into the lakes and rivers, winding its way to the shore down to the deep ocean.

1. Your first stop is the Aqua Lobby. Observe the aqua globes, or hanging aquariums, with our African Cichlids. A gallon of water weighs 8.34 pounds. Estimate the size of one aqua globe and figure out what it weighs with water in it.

Estimated size _____ Weight _____

The journey of a drop of water continues with rivers. Rivers of the world capture rain drops, which become part of ecosystems within the rivers.

2. Locate three types of turtles; list their scientific names and one unique characteristic about each one.

a. _____

b. _____

c. _____

3. Explain how rivers are formed. _____

4. How does 'erosion' impact a river? _____

5. Locate the following vertebrates. Give the common name:

Scientific name	Common name
a. <i>Pygocentus nattereri</i>	_____
b. <i>Atractostesus spatula</i>	_____
c. <i>Colossoma macropomum</i>	_____

6. Where do the following river creatures live?

a. Apache Trout _____
b. Paddlefish _____
c. Mata Mata Turtle _____

7. What is an unusual adaptation that Archerfish have?

8. List three facts about Asian Small Clawed Otters.

a. _____
b. _____
c. _____

9. Why are African Black-Footed Penguins endangered and what is OdySea Aquarium doing to help?

10. Consider the fact that pollutants entering a fresh water river may contaminate the water. Explain what effect polluted river water might have on the ecosystem, both within the river water and the habitats along the shoreline.

Water flows along shorelines and over reefs. Coral reefs are teeming with life and are one of the ocean's most unique showcases of biodiversity.

11. What is the name of the largest coral reef?

12. How many species are thought to live in this reef? _____

13. What distinguishes coral from a plant?

14. How is a coral reef formed? _____

15. Give an example of a symbiotic relationship within a coral reef community. _____

16. Explain the concept of 'interconnected organisms' in the coral reef.

17. Define the term, "niche" as it relates to life in a coral reef.

18. What are three types of reefs?

a. _____

b. _____

c. _____

19. What are three threats to coral reefs?

a. _____

b. _____

c. _____

20. Scientists have found that high concentrations of sharks can be found near coral reefs. For example, the Great Barrier Reef is home to several species of sharks including the white shark. Explain why this reef is a shark territory. (Be specific and give examples.)

As you enter the Carousel of the Living Sea, observe the habitats in each area.

21. OdySea Aquarium has given rescued sea turtles a forever home. What are some of the life-threatening injuries they have?

22. What are the differences between California Sea Lions and Pacific Harbor Seals?

23. What are some species of sharks are in the Carousel?

24. Locate the jellyfish exhibit. Explain how jellyfish move in the water.

25. Select one of the following areas on Earth and explain how conservation efforts will effect change for life in the ecosystem.

Rivers of the World

or

Coral Reefs
