

Water Wizard Facts

Grade level: 2nd – 5th

Standard/ GLE Code: SC.2.3.2, SC.5.3.3

Time commitment: 30 minutes

Materials Needed:

- Water Wizard Facts Student worksheet
- Access to computer for Jeopardy water trivia game (optional)

Water is essential for life. Learning water facts can give students an appreciation for this valuable resource. In this activity, students test their water knowledge across several topics to see if they reach Water Wizard status and can become water ambassadors. Email us at publicoutreach@csu.org to receive a prize for your students who qualify as Water Wizards.

Educational Messages:

- Students gain water knowledge through answering 50 trivia questions.
- Topics include general water and water cycle knowledge, world and USA water facts, Colorado and Colorado Springs Utilities water trivia, ecology, use and water conservation.
- Students check their answers to see if they qualify as Water Wizards.
- Reinforce water knowledge through a water Jeopardy game (optional).



Photo source: Water Wizard USA

Suggested format:

1. Assign students to small groups to fill in the water trivia chart on the Water Wizard Facts Student worksheet.
2. Have students check their answers with the answer key. If they get at least 80% correct (40+ facts), they are Water Wizards and can be water ambassadors in their community to help educate others about the importance of this resource.
3. Reinforce water knowledge by playing the Water Jeopardy Game created by Richelle Gittens from Queen Palmer Elementary using Jeopardy Labs:
<https://jeopardylabs.com/play/2019-05-15-566#.XfkuyaGI8SQ.email>

Answer Key on next page.



Water Wizard Facts ANSWER KEY

General Water & Water Cycle Trivia:

Answer:

1	True or false: the same amount of water exists on Earth today, as when Earth was first created.	True
2	What is water composed of?	H2O - 2 hydrogen atoms and 1 oxygen atom
3	What does the prefix Hydro mean?	Water
4	Name the three (3) physical forms of water.	Liquid, solid, and vapor (gas)
5	How much of the earth's surface is covered in water?	70%
6	How much of the water on earth is usable fresh water?	Less than 1%
7	How many pounds does a gallon of water weigh?	8.34 pounds
8	What's it called when the body is lacking adequate fluids?	Dehydration
9	About how much of the human body is composed of water?	70%
10	What is the name of the water cycle process by which water changes from a liquid to a vapor?	Evaporation
11	What is the name for the portion of the water cycle where solid liquid falls to the earth's surface?	Precipitation
12	What is the name of the water cycle process where water vapor changes to tiny liquid droplets and forms clouds?	Condensation
13	What is the energy source that drives the water cycle?	The sun
14	Precipitation can occur in several forms: Name four	Sleet, Snow, Hail, Rain
15	A type of precipitation is caused by raindrops passing through a freezing layer of air?	Sleet and hail
16	What is another name for a drainage basin?	Watershed
17	What is water stored in an aquifer called?	Groundwater
18	What is the alternate rise and fall of waters caused by the gravitational attraction of the moon and sun?	Tides
19	Large rivers of ice that never completely melt are called?	Glaciers

World and USA water facts:

20	What is the longest river in the world?	Nile
21	What is the largest lake in North America?	Lake Superior
22	What state is surrounded completely by water?	Hawaii
23	What state claims to have 10,000 lakes?	Minnesota
24	Which river cuts the Grand Canyon?	Colorado River
25	Which river system has had more impact on the development of the U.S. than any other?	Mississippi (covering 41% of the land mass of the continental U.S. and affecting 31 states and 2 Canadian provinces)

Colorado and Colorado Springs Utilities water trivia:

26	Name the Colorado state fish.	Greenback cutthroat trout
27	Most of Colorado's precipitation falls in which portion of the state?	The Rocky Mountains or Colorado's western slope
28	What is the significance of the Continental Divide as it relates to water?	The Continental Divide splits the direction of water flow in our country--either east to the Atlantic Ocean (including the Gulf of Mexico) or west to the Pacific Ocean.



29	Colorado is unique in that 8 rivers originate within the state: Name our four largest rivers.	Colorado, South Platte, Arkansas and Rio Grande
30	From where does our drinking water originate?	Melting snow and rainfall
31	What is the average yearly precipitation in Colorado Springs?	16 inches
32	The Colorado River drains through seven states. Name three of them.	Wyoming, Colorado, New Mexico, Utah, Arizona, Nevada, and California
33	What is a reservoir?	A human-made lake
34	What kind of energy is created by water flowing through turbines in a dam?	Hydroelectric
35	Name the 3 river basins that supply water to Colorado Springs	The Colorado, Arkansas, and South Platte Rivers
36	How many miles does your drinking water travel to get to Colorado Springs?	Up to 100 miles
37	When unwanted or dangerous substances get into our drinking water, we classify that water as?	Polluted or contaminated
38	Why isn't it safe to drink water directly from Colorado's streams, rivers, and lakes?	Stream water may contain things such as dirt and disease germs that can make you sick.
39	Where does our water go to be cleaned so that it is safe to drink?	Water treatment plant

Ecology and water:

40	What is Water Wise (aka Xeriscape) landscaping?	Attractive landscaping with plants that need less water.
41	What do we call plant and animal habitat near water?	Riparian
42	What organ do fish use to take oxygen from water?	Gills
43	What group of animals spend a portion of their lives breathing using gills and a portion using lungs?	Amphibians
44	What name is given to the bits of soil and rock that a river carries along and eventually drops to the bottom?	Sediment or silt

Water use and conservation:

45	On average, how many gallons of water a day does a Colorado Springs resident use?	78 gallons per person per day
46	What is a drought?	Long time period with lower than normal precipitation
47	For what purpose is the most water used by an average Colorado Springs resident?	Watering landscapes (37% of water used)
48	Which two appliances inside the home use the most water?	The toilet and clothes washer
49	A high-efficiency toilet uses how many gallons of water per flush?	About 1 gallon (range from .8 to 1.28 gallons)
50	How many gallons of water can you save by turning off the faucet while brushing your teeth and washing your hands?	10 gallons a day