



In addition to the descriptions listed below, students may research a specific water user during the week prior to this activity.



Agriculture:

Water is used to produce food and fiber for processing and consumption.
Sugar cane grower: Uses water to irrigate crops and transport chemicals (pesticides and fertilizers) to crops.
Cattle rancher: Uses water to grow food and provide drinking water for cattle and to clean their areas for living and feeding, transporting waste to holding ponds.
Wheat farmer: Uses water to irrigate crops.
Dairy farmer: Uses water to grow food and provide drinking water for cows and to sanitize milking equipment and stalls.

Mining:

Water is used in the extraction process of raw materials (coal, iron, gold, copper, sand and gravel).
Miner: Uses water to carry and wash rock material during the mineral removal processes.
Sand and gravel company: Uses water to wash fine soil and rock material out of sand and gravel formations. Sand and gravel are used in cement and road construction.

Logging:

Water is used to grow and harvest trees.
Forest manager: Uses water to support tree growth and control fires.
Logging company: Uses water to float rafts of logs (on rivers and lakes) to collection points.

Transporting/Shipping:

Water (rivers, seas, oceans) is used to transport raw materials and finished products to points of distribution (ports).
Slurry pipeline owner: Uses water to transport pulverized coal through pipelines to distant coal-fired power plants.
Ship's crew: Uses water to haul raw materials (e.g., logs, oil, gas, wheat) and finished products (e.g., automobiles, appliances, processed food) to points of transfer.

Business/Industry:

Water is used in the processing and manufacturing of goods (e.g., cars, food, medical supplies, etc.).
Steel producer: Uses large volumes of water to process iron ore into steel.
Textile manufacturer: Uses water to wash and process raw materials (e.g., wool, cotton, mohair). Dye is mixed with water to color fabric.
Paper mill: Uses water to transport pulp fibers for paper making and to carry away waste.

Wildlife:

Water provides habitat for countless plant and animal species.
Mammals: Beavers, muskrats and otters live in and near waterways.
Fish: Trout, salmon and carp live in water and eat organisms that live in water.
Insects: Aquatic insects are a food source for many other organisms.
Vegetation: Trees and other plants use water in photosynthesis and to transport nutrients.

Recreation:

People recreate in and around water for exercise and enjoyment.
Cruise ship: People travel to many parts of the world in cruise ships.
Fishing: People catch fish in rivers, lakes and oceans.
Water theme park: Uses water to transport people on exciting and fun rides.
Scuba diver: People enjoy exploring underwater environments.
Winter sports: Snow and ice provide fun for skaters, skiers and sledgers.

Power Generation:

Water is used to generate electricity.
Hydropower plant: Water flowing in rivers is stored behind dams in reservoirs. As water is released by the dam, it turns turbines that generate electricity.
Nuclear power plant: Uses water in cooling towers to maintain safe operating temperatures.
Coal-fired power plant: Burning coal produces steam heat that turns turbines, creating electricity.

Community:

Water is used by community members for domestic, maintenance and recreational purposes.
Domestic users: Water is used in a multitude of ways in and around the home.
Fire department: Uses water to extinguish fires.
Street cleaner: Uses water to wash oil, litter and other materials from streets.
Restaurant owner: Uses water to cook meals, clean the restaurant and water lawns/grounds.



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