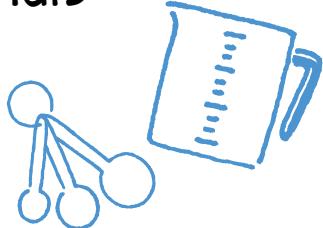


Drop in the Bucket @ Home

Let's see how much of Earth's water is available for drinking, cooking, cleaning, and more!

Materials



1 liquid measuring cup
1 tablespoon measuring spoon
1 teaspoon measuring spoon
1/4 teaspoon measuring spoon
Table salt
Plate, table, or bucket

Directions



STEP 1 Fill the measuring cup with one cup (8 oz) of water. This represents all the water on Earth.

STEP 2 Remove 1.5 teaspoons of water from the full measuring cup and place it in the tablespoon. This represents Earth's fresh water.

Even though the earth is mostly water, 97% of it is salt water.

STEP 3 Sprinkle some salt in the liquid measuring cup then set it aside. This remaining water is salt water.

STEP 4 Remove 1/4 teaspoon of the water in your tablespoon. This represents non-frozen fresh water. Set aside the remaining 1 1/4 teaspoons left in your tablespoon to represent frozen water found in glaciers and ice caps.

STEP 5 Dip your finger or the tip of a pencil in the 1/4 teaspoon and let one drop fall on a plate, on a table, or in a bucket. This single droplet represents all the water available on Earth for human needs. It is 0.003% of all the water on Earth! Much of the fresh water represented by your 1/4 teaspoon is trapped in the atmosphere or underground. Always remember to use this precious resource wisely.

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