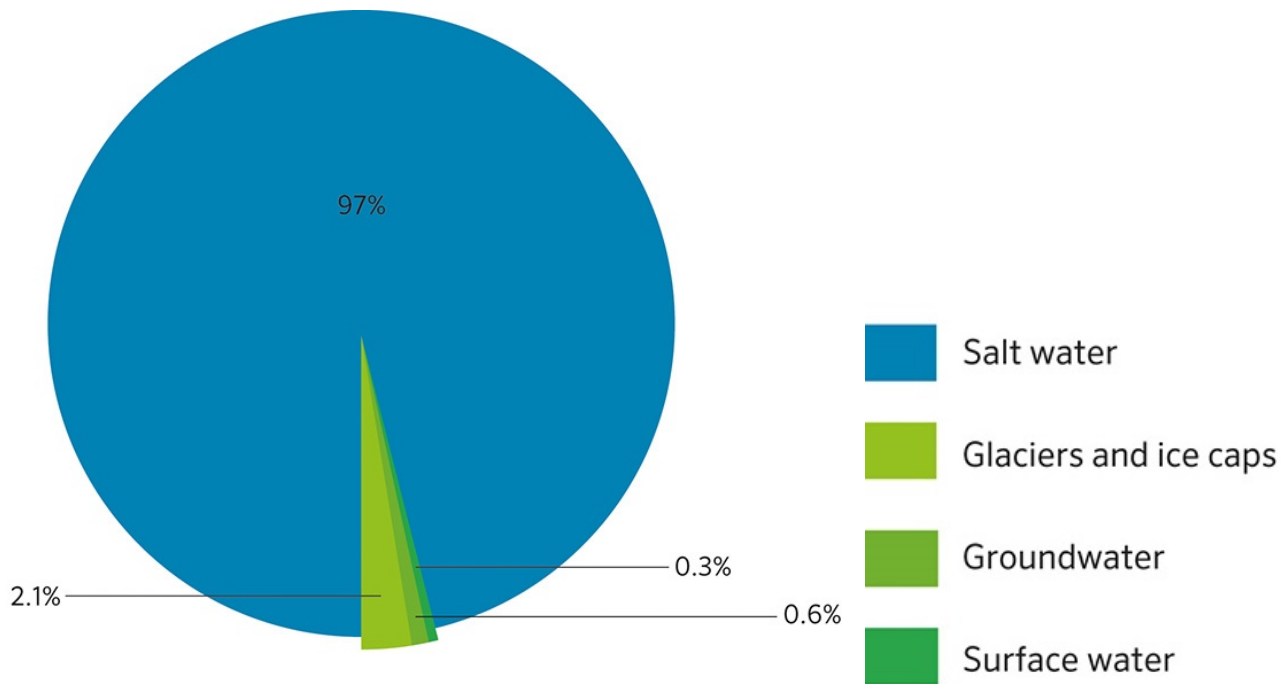


Water

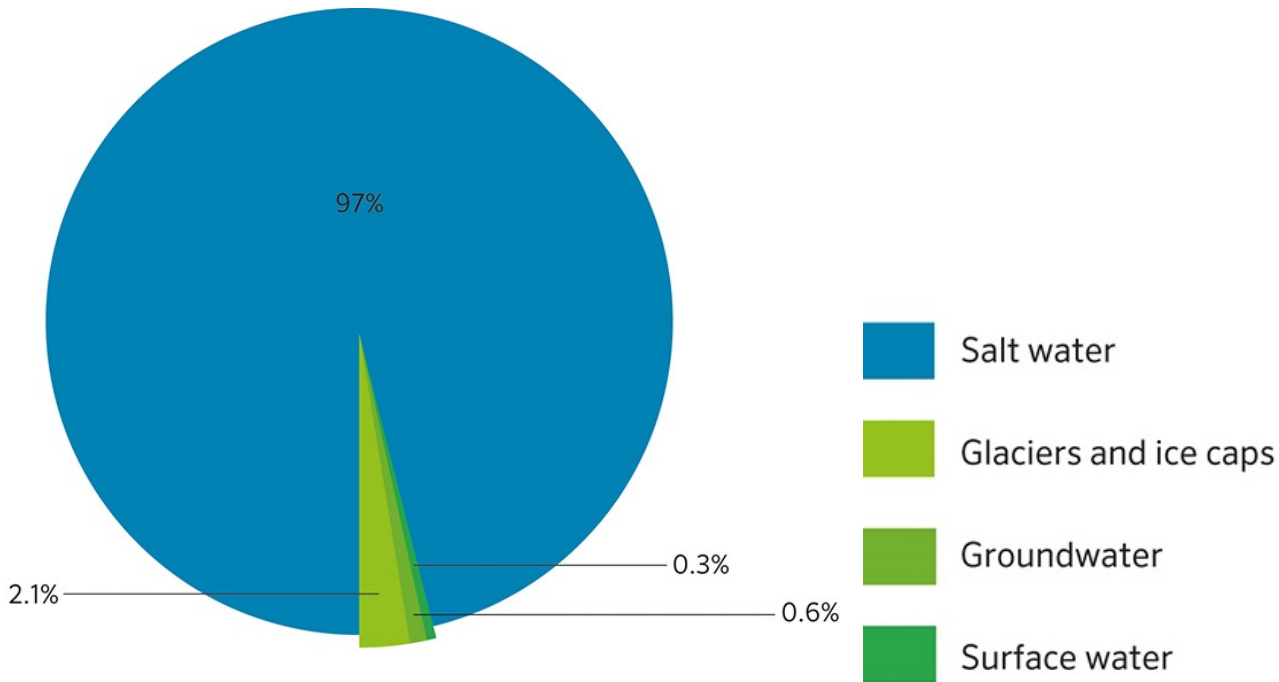


The hydrosphere



The hydrosphere

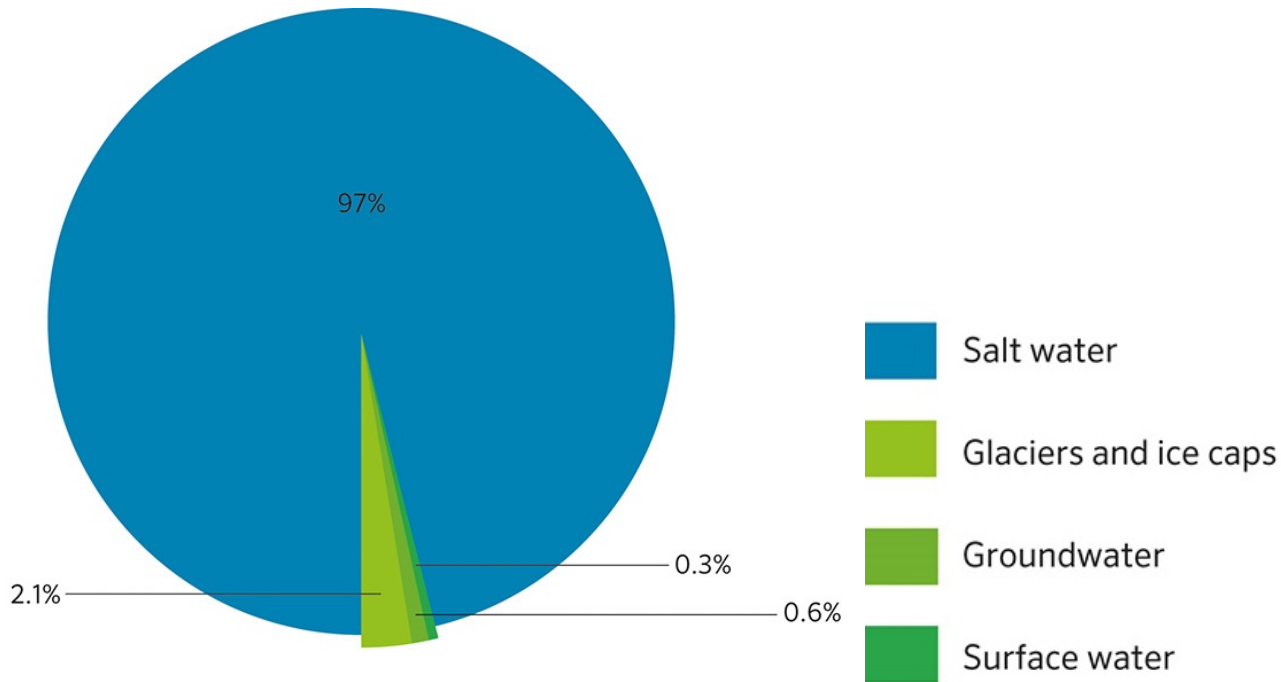
All the water on Earth forms the **hydrosphere**.



The hydrosphere

All the water on Earth forms the **hydrosphere**.

There are two types of water: **salt** and **fresh** water.

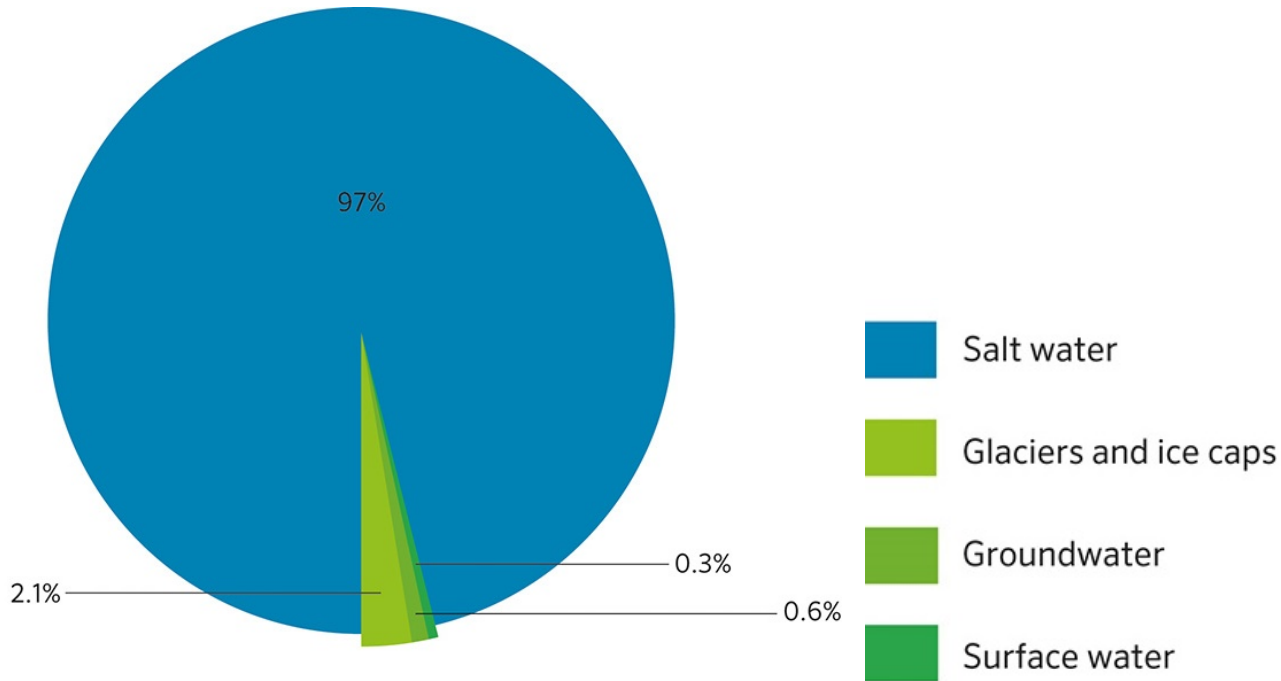


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Most of the water on Earth is salt water.



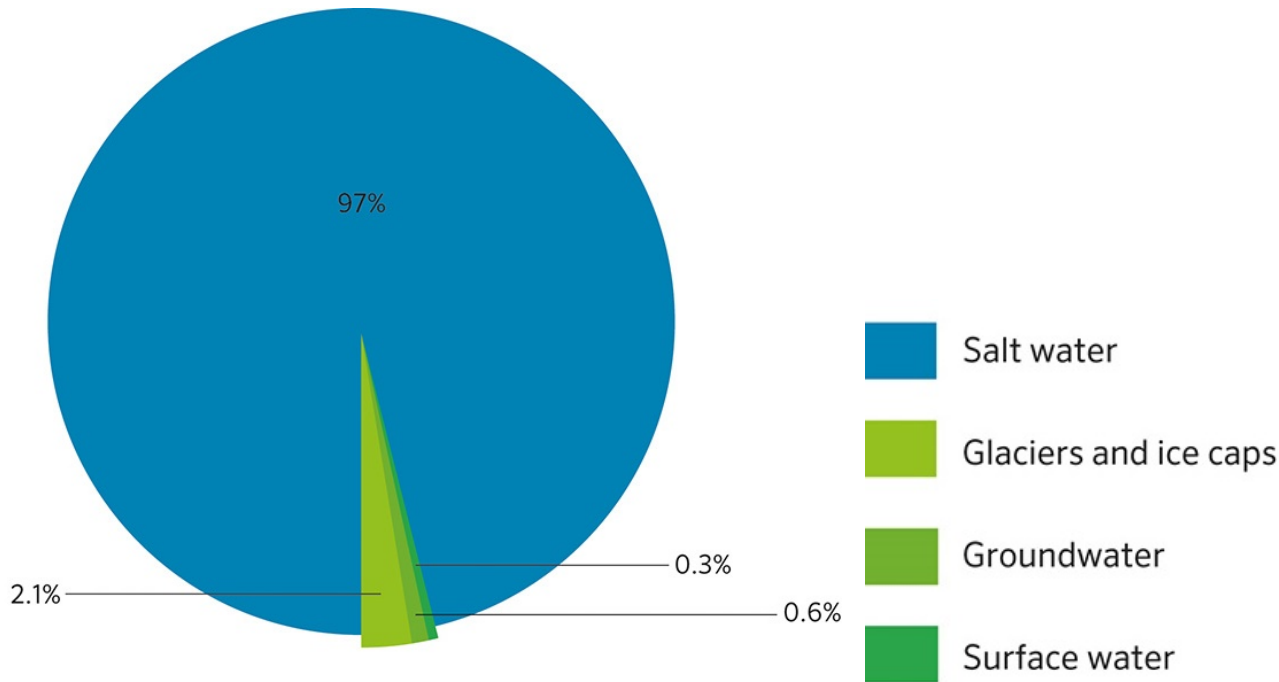
The hydrosphere

All the water on Earth forms the **hydrosphere**.

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There is also groundwater, which is the water under the ground.



The hydrosphere

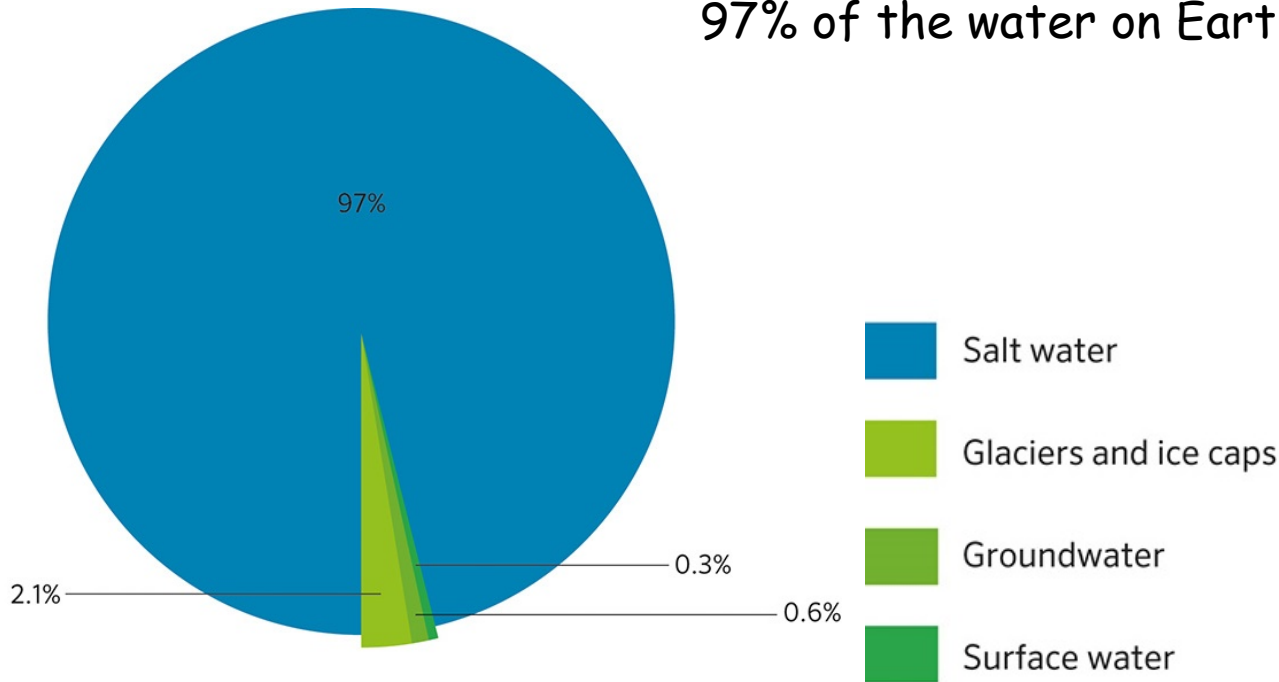
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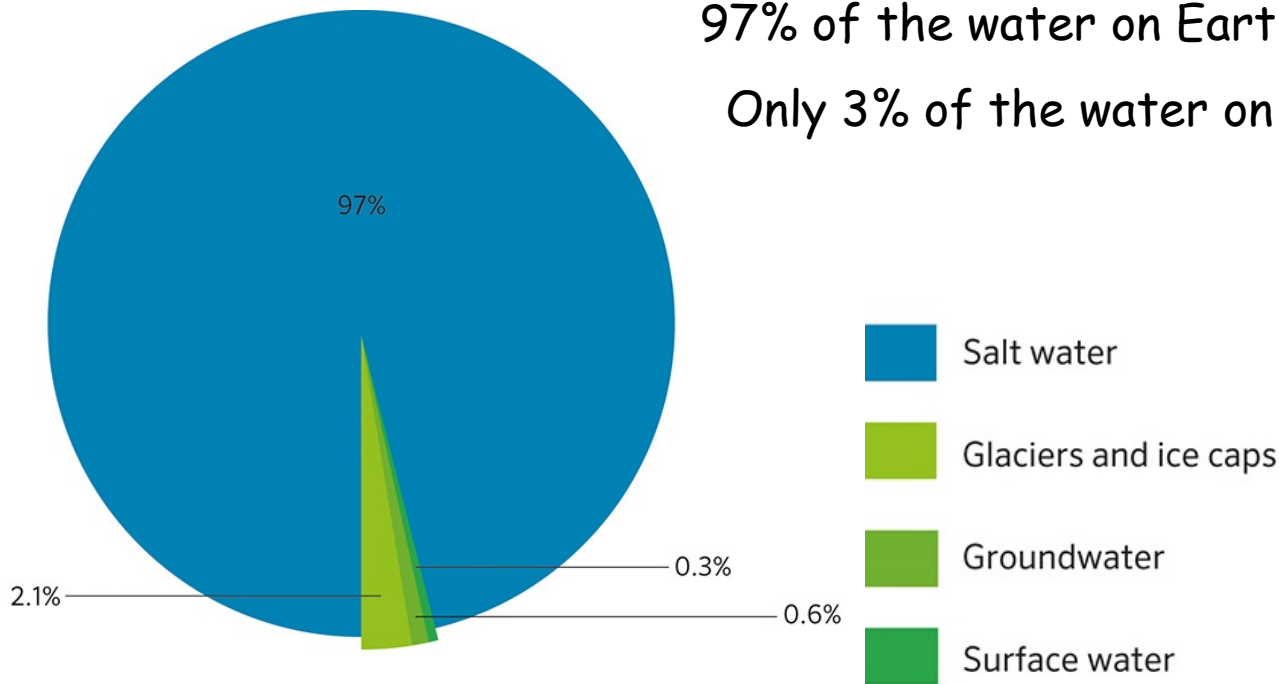
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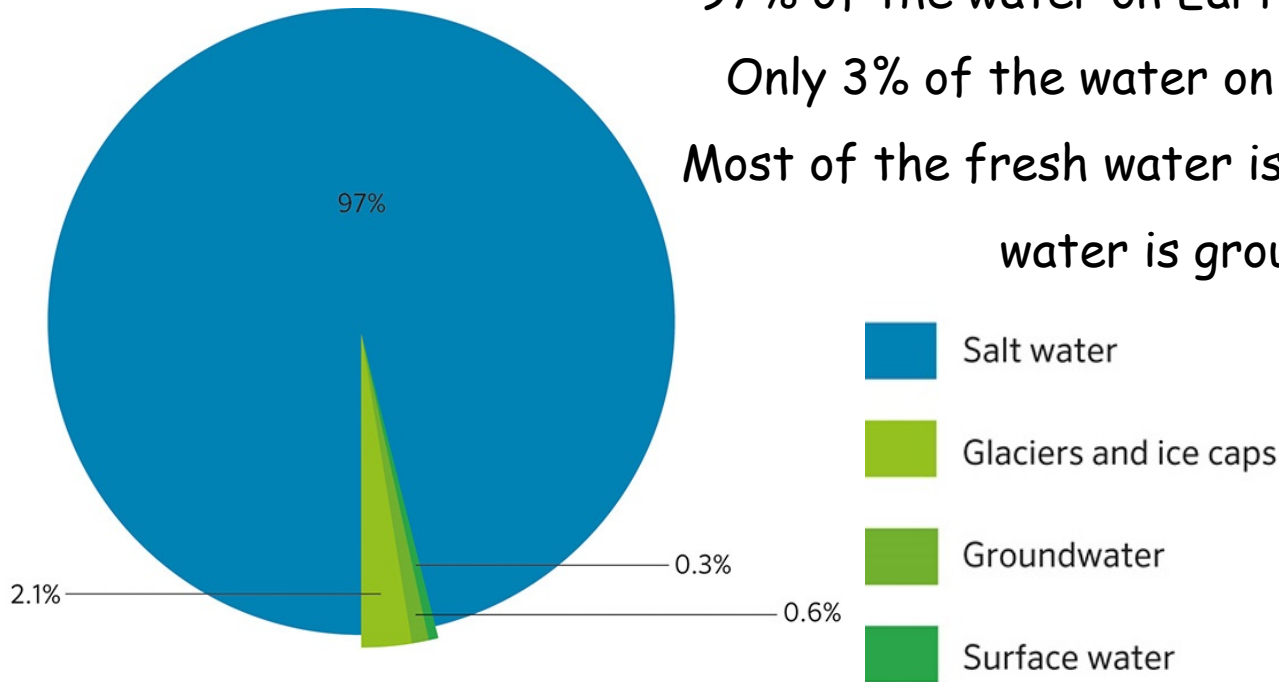
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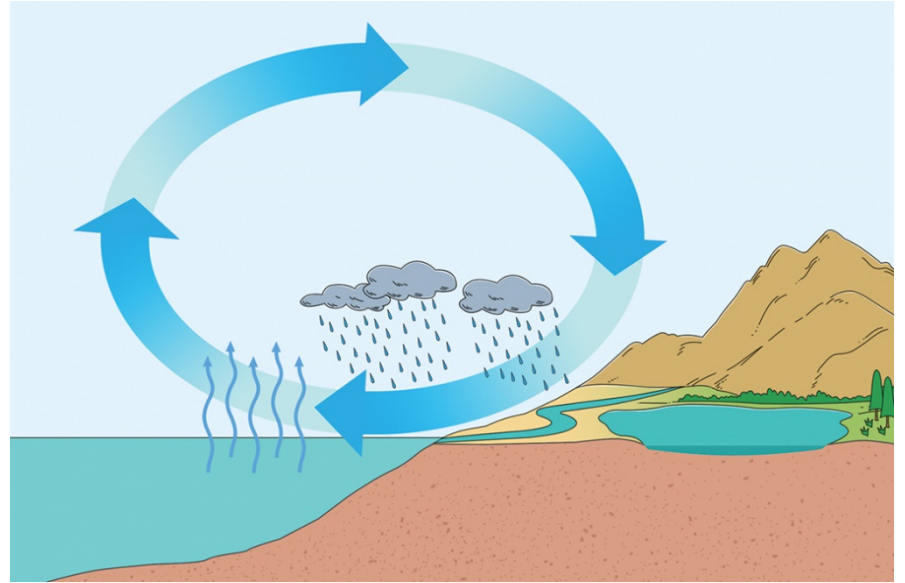
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Only 3% of the water on Earth is fresh water.

Most of the fresh water is frozen and some fresh water is groundwater.

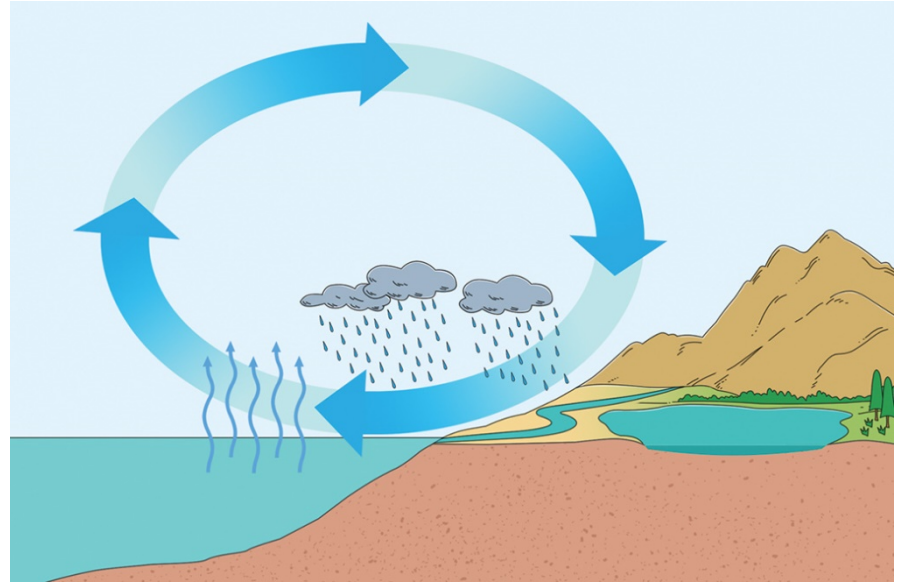


The hydrosphere



The hydrosphere

Water moves between the hydrosphere and the atmosphere. This is called the **water cycle**.

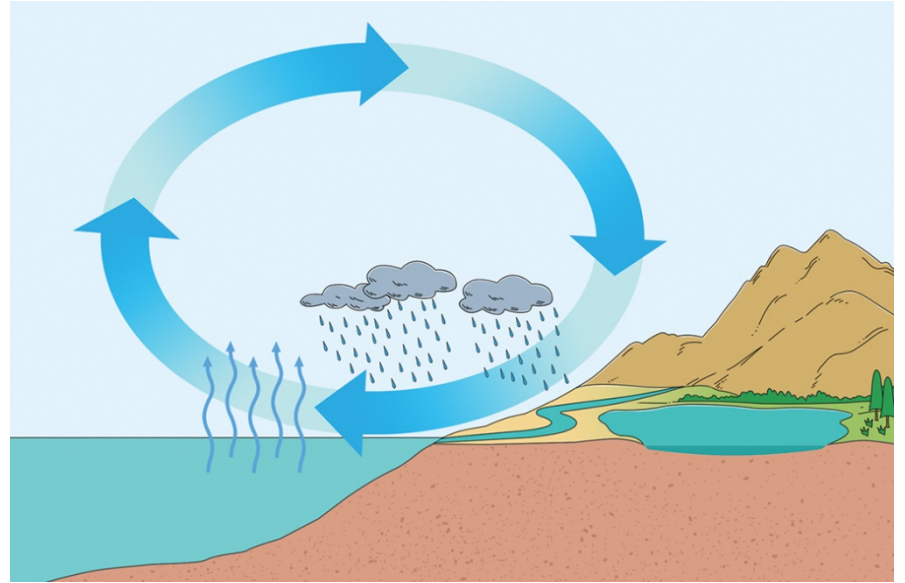


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Some salt water from oceans and seas changes to fresh water in the water cycle.

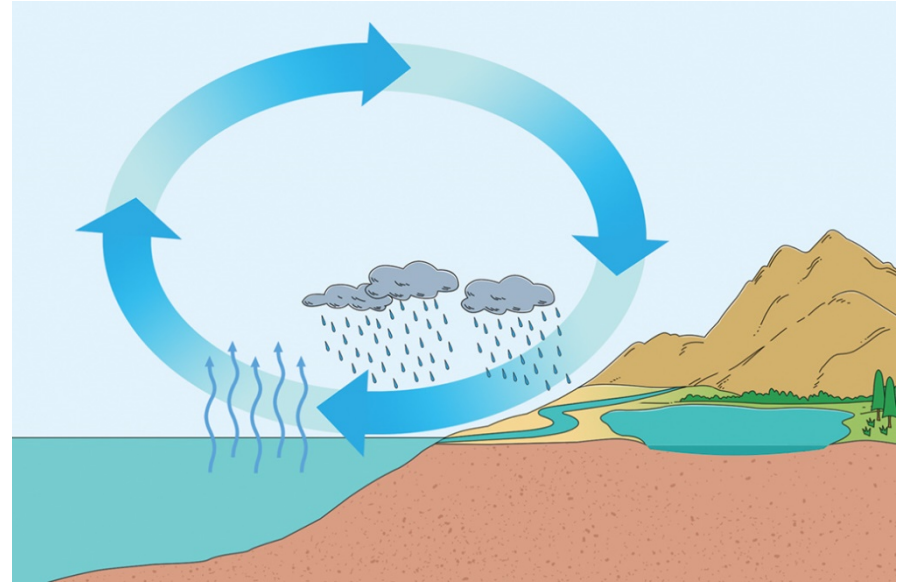


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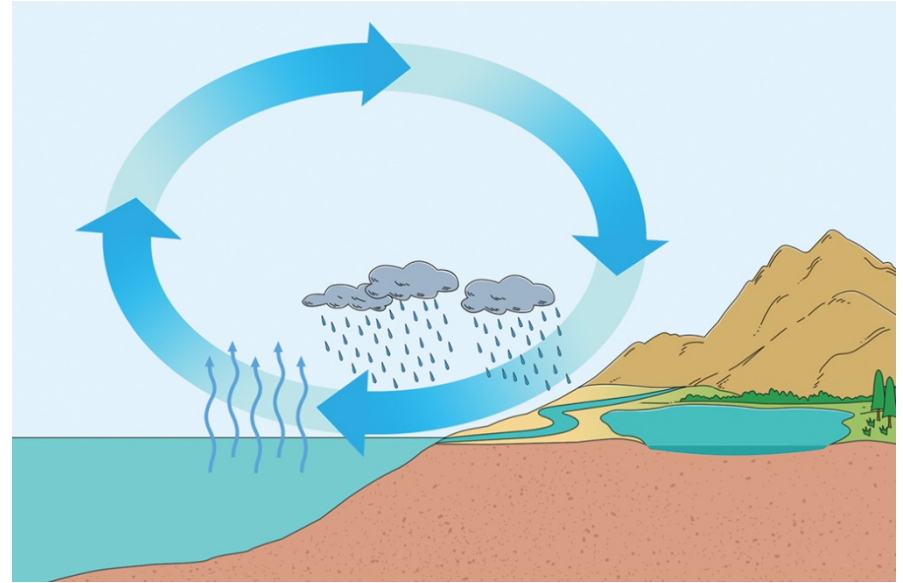
When salt water evaporates, the salt stays in the sea and the water vapour contains only fresh water. When the water vapour rises, it condenses.

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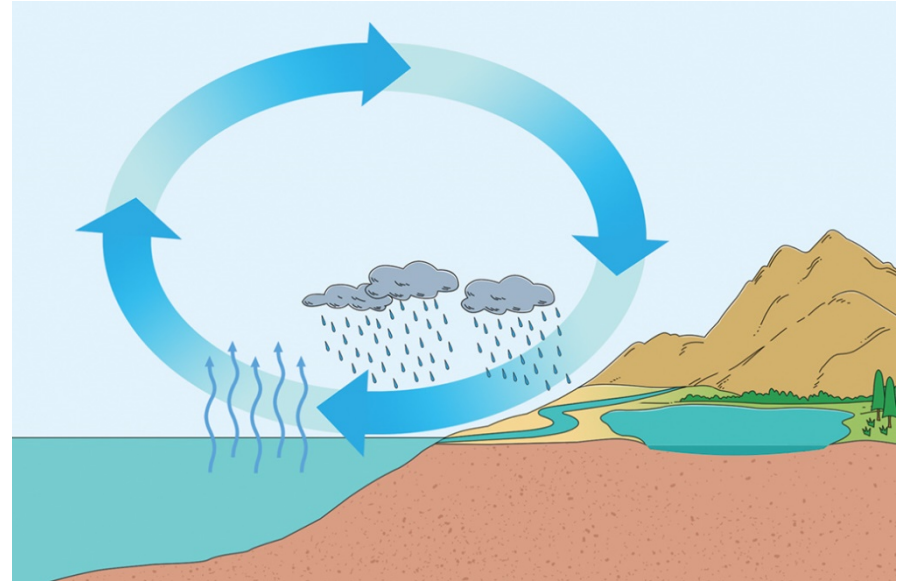
Then, precipitation is formed from these fresh water drops.

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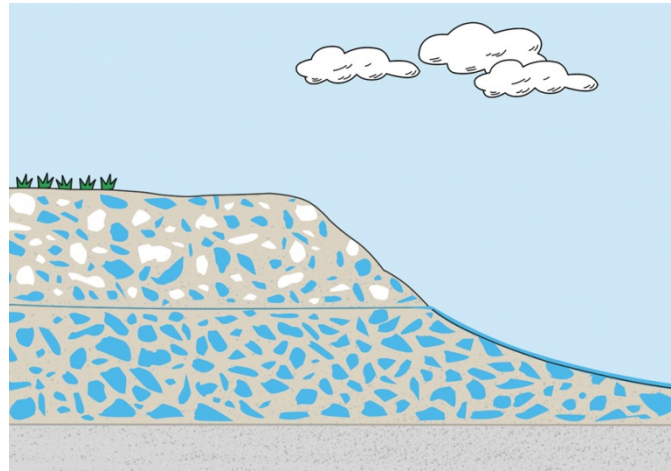
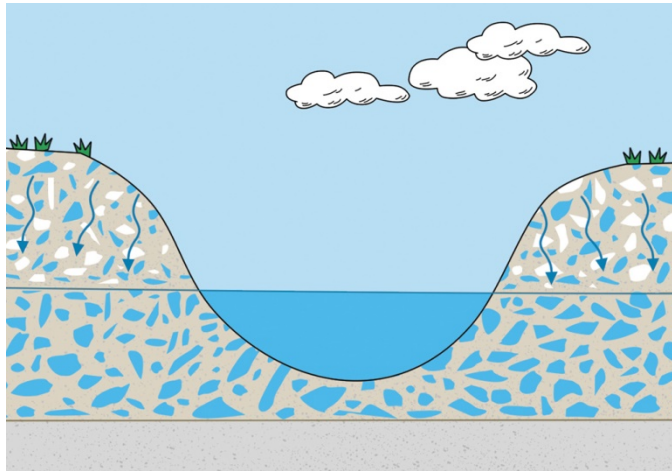
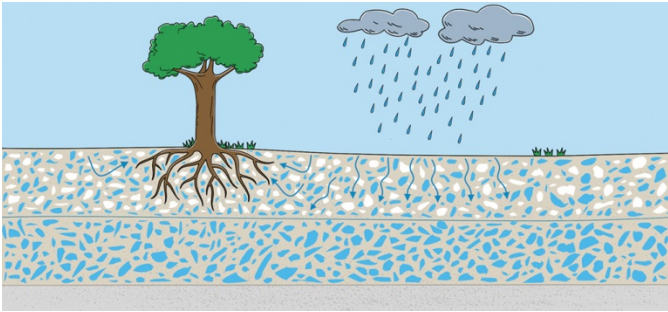


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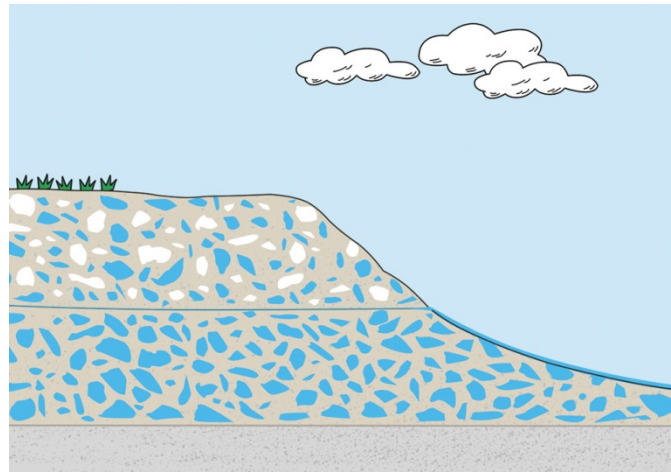
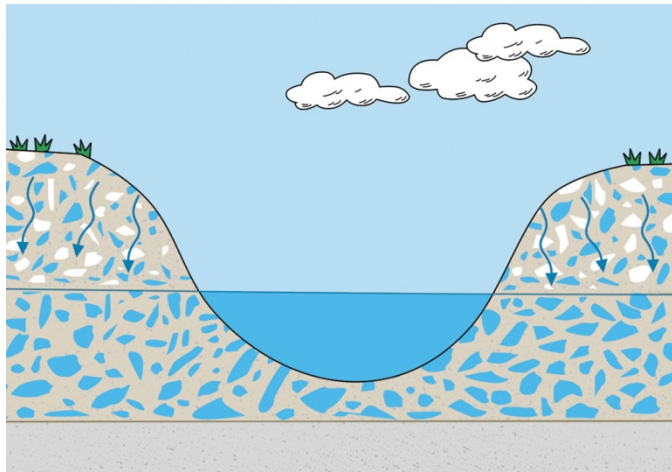
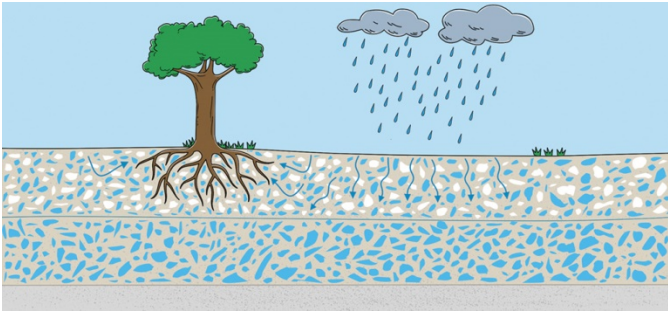
The drops fall to the ground and the water drops that are collected in the seas become salt water again.

Groundwater



Groundwater

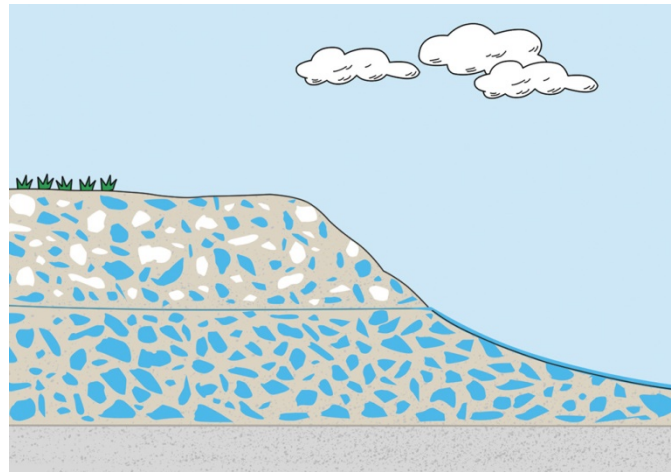
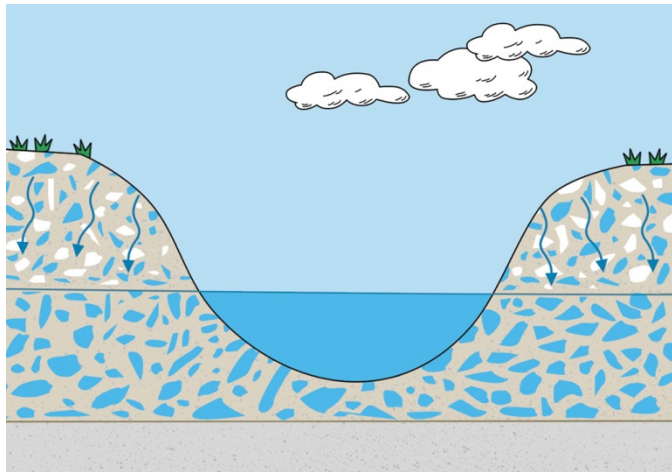
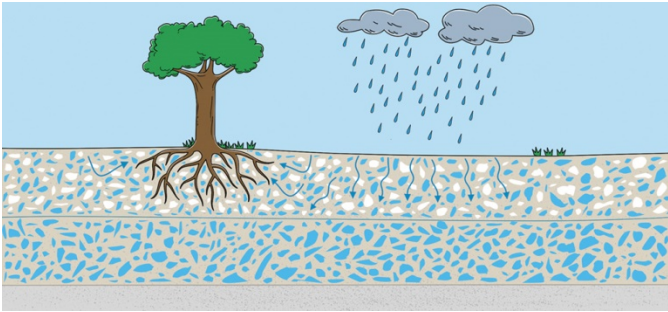
Groundwater is fresh water under the ground. Some groundwater has been under the ground for millions of years, but groundwater can also become **surface water** again too.



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When precipitation falls, it can...

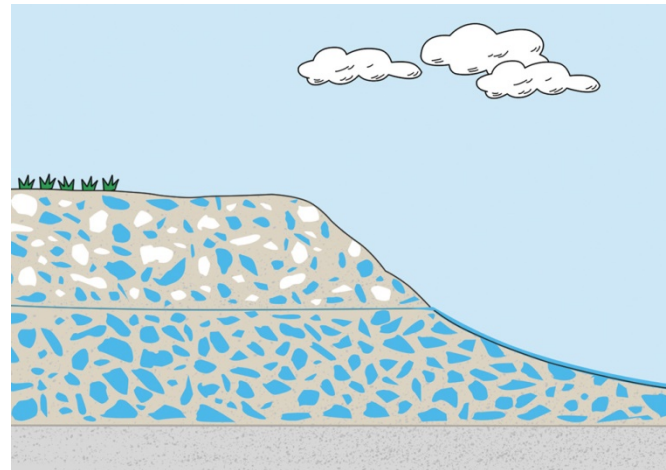
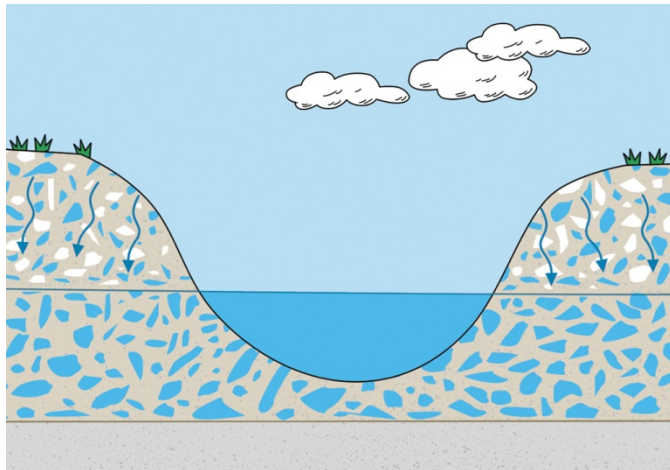
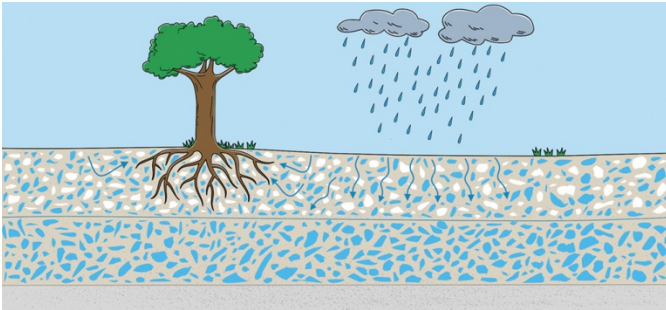


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When precipitation falls, it can...

> **Be absorbed**

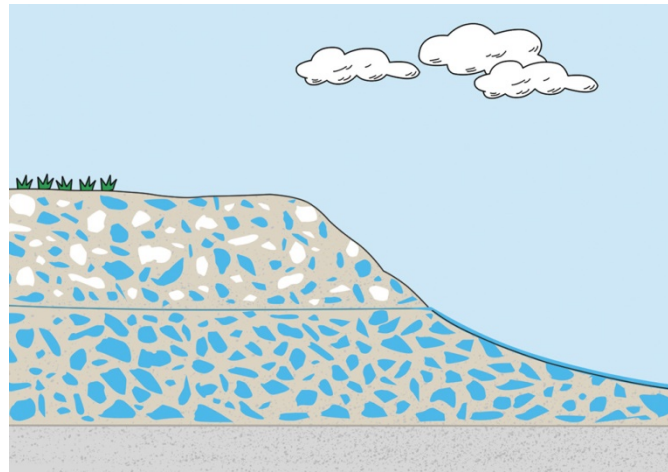
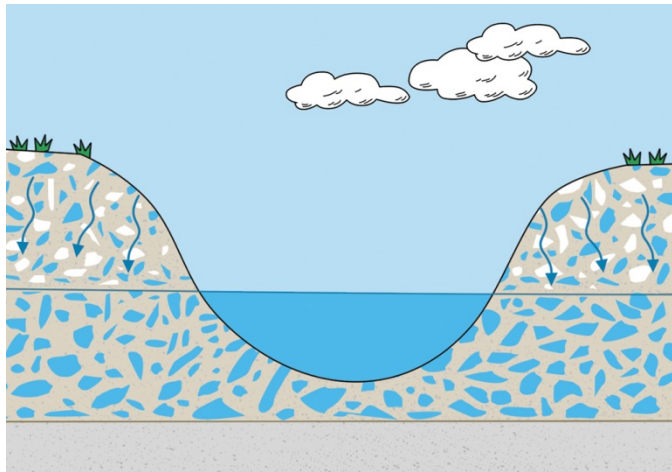
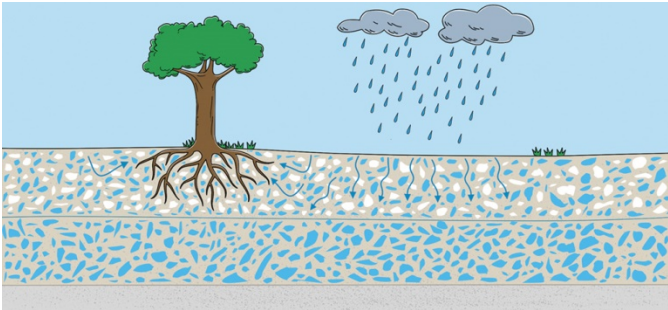


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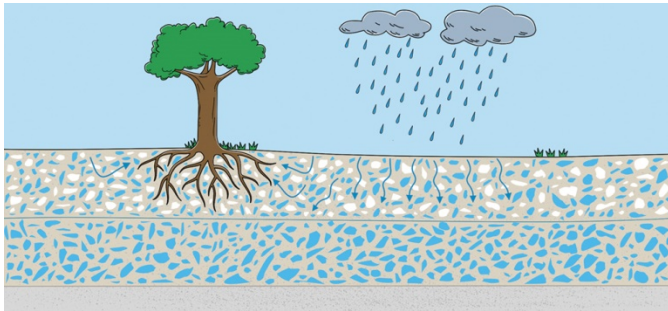
When precipitation falls, it can...

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- > Evaporate



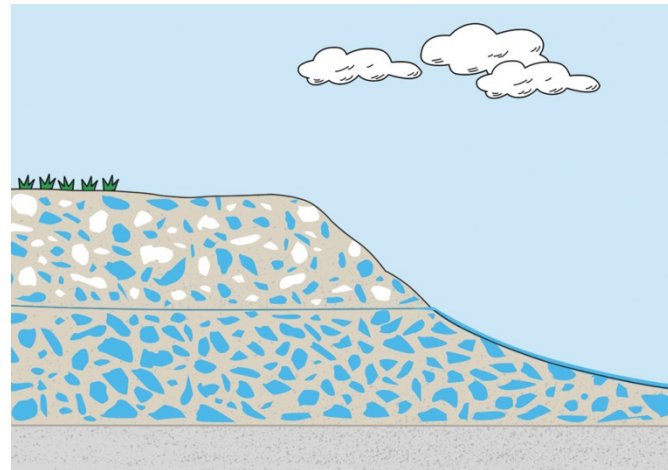
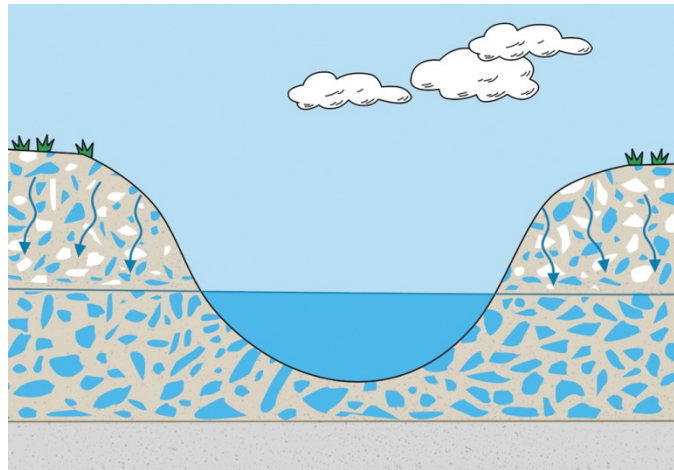
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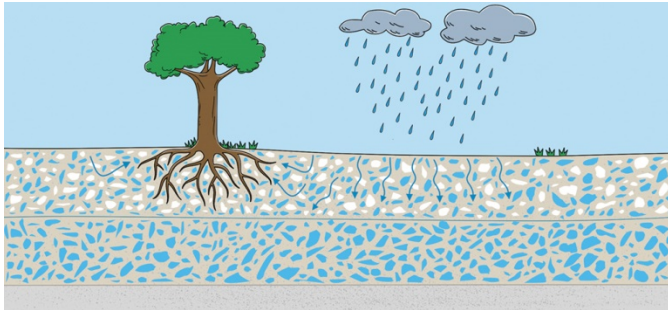
When precipitation falls, it can...

- > **Be absorbed**
- > **Evaporate**
- > **Collect in a river, lake, sea, reservoir or ocean**



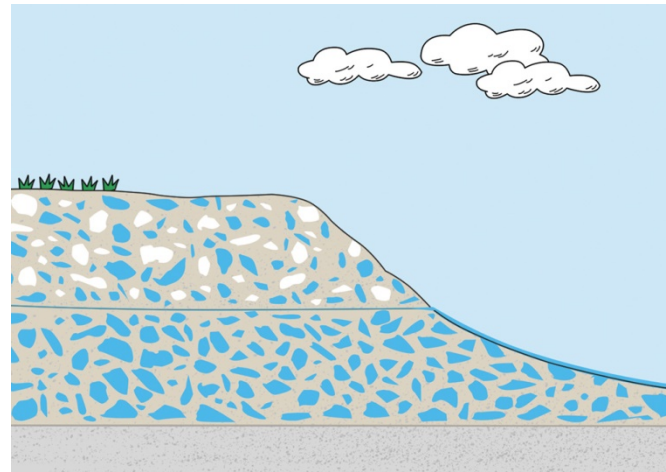
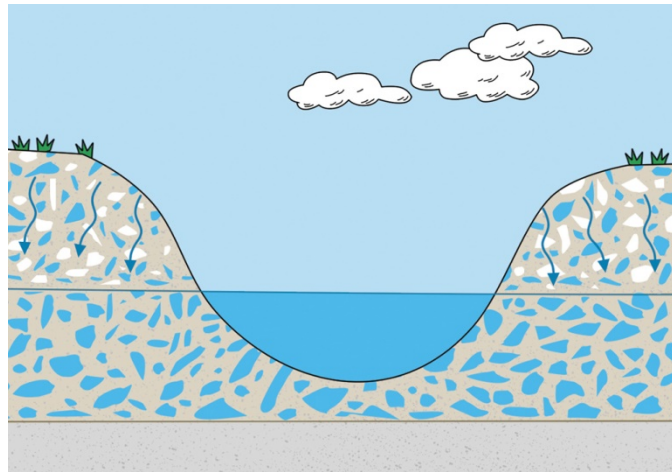
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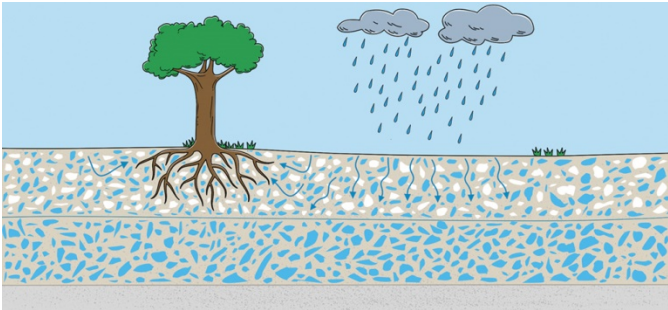
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- > **Filter** through rocks or soil



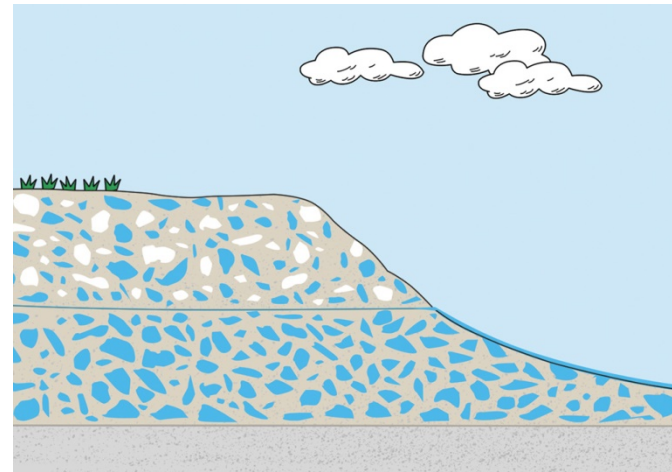
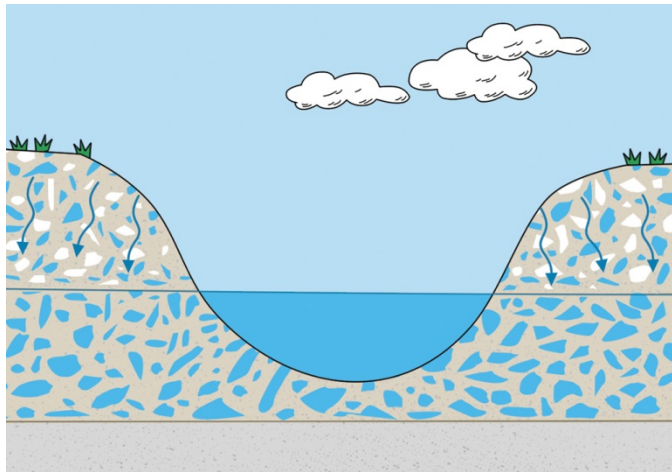
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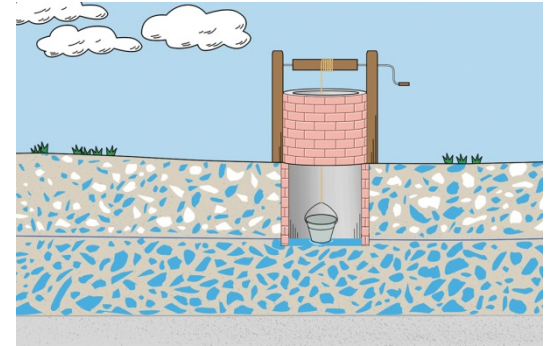
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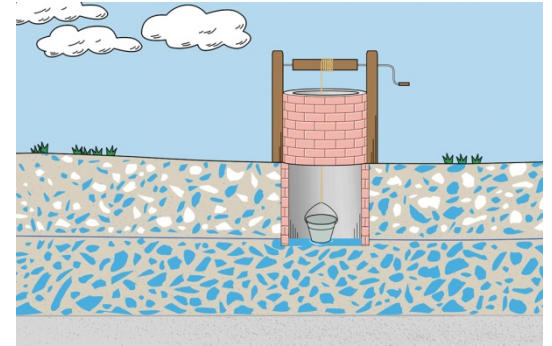
Groundwater becomes surface water when the water table rises and reaches the surface.

Groundwater



Groundwater

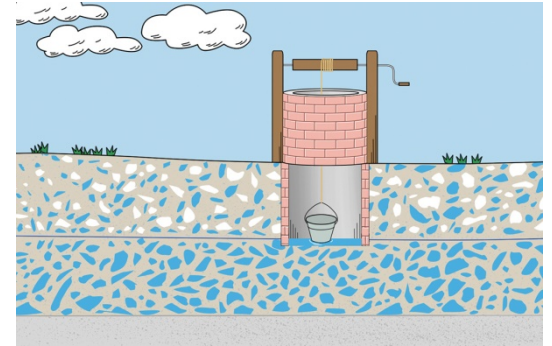
Water can be extracted from aquifers through wells. A **well** is a hole that is dug from the surface down to below the water table of an aquifer.



Groundwater

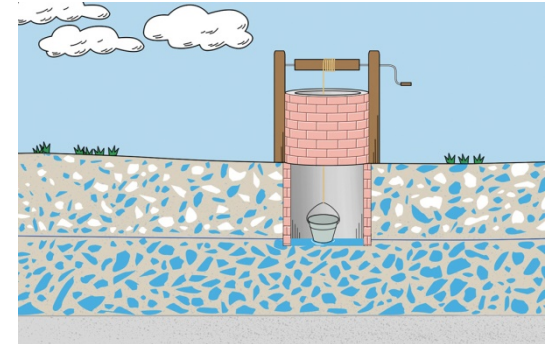
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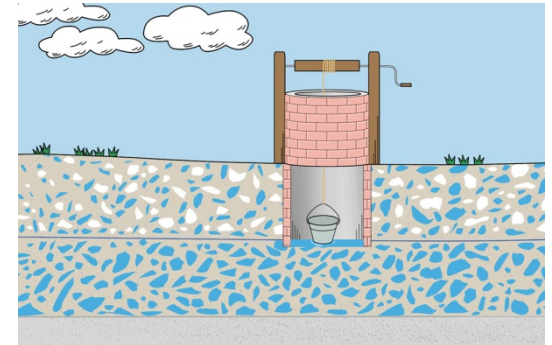
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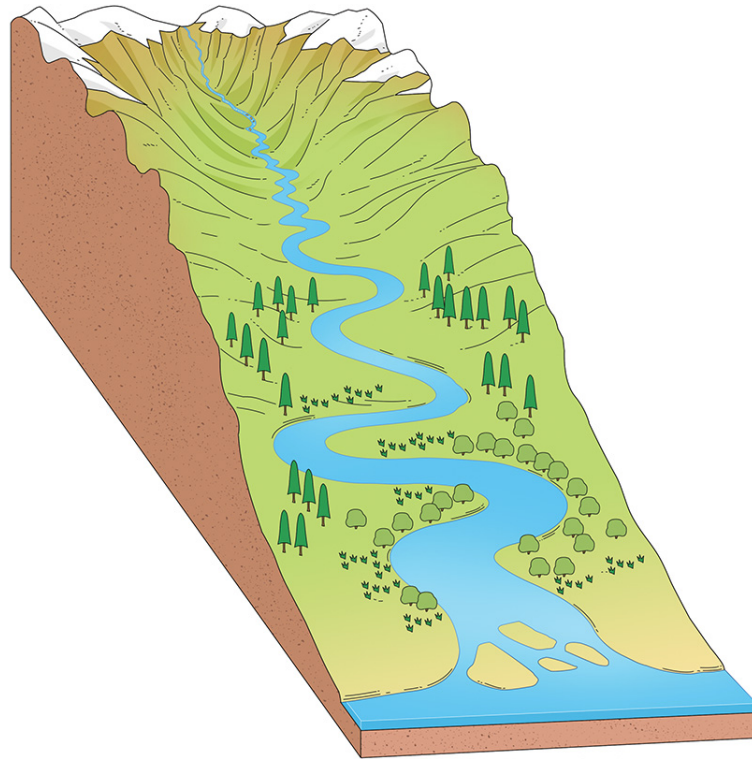
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It's very important not to **pollute** groundwater.

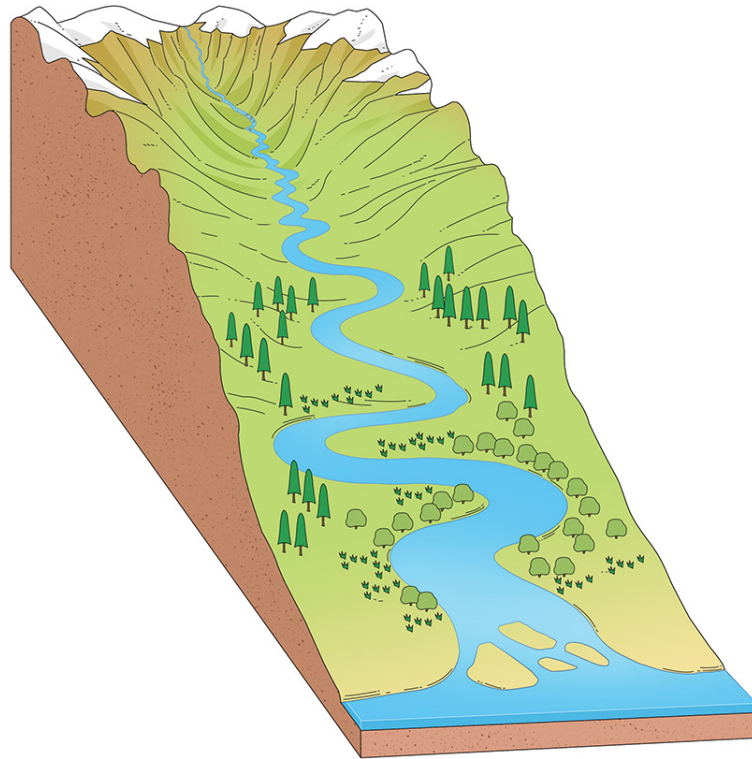


Rivers



Rivers

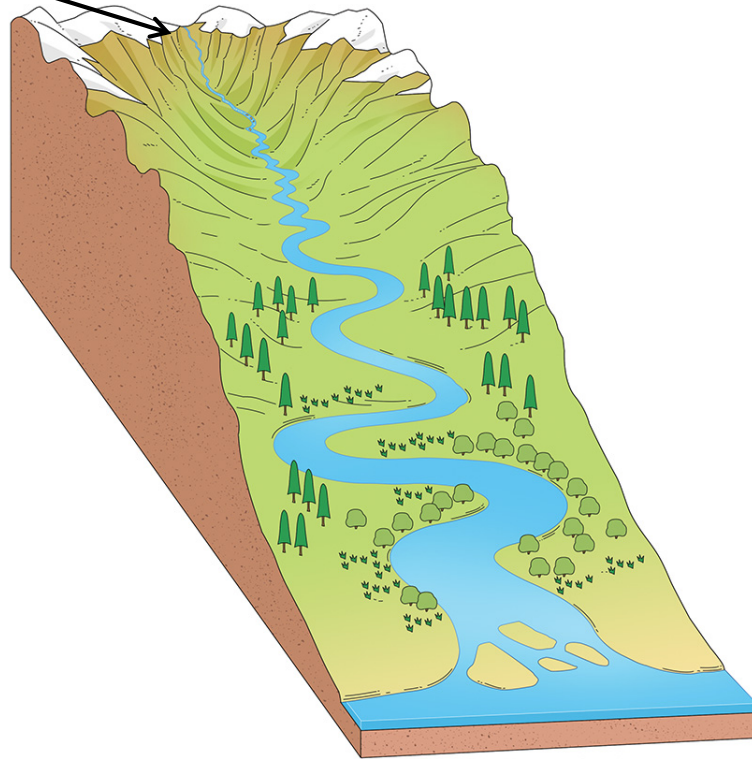
A river is a large, moving stream of fresh water which collects precipitation that drains off the nearby land.



Rivers

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Source

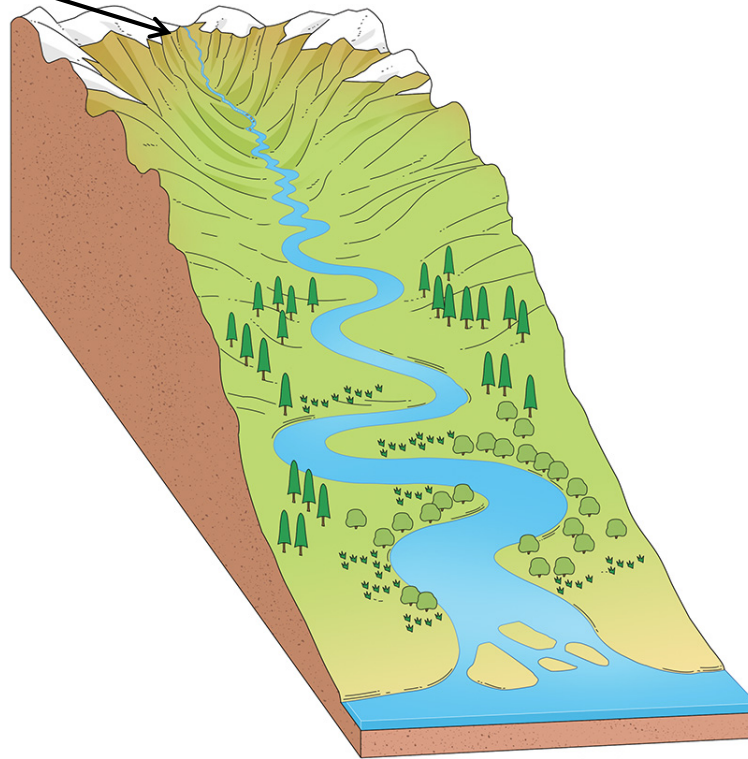


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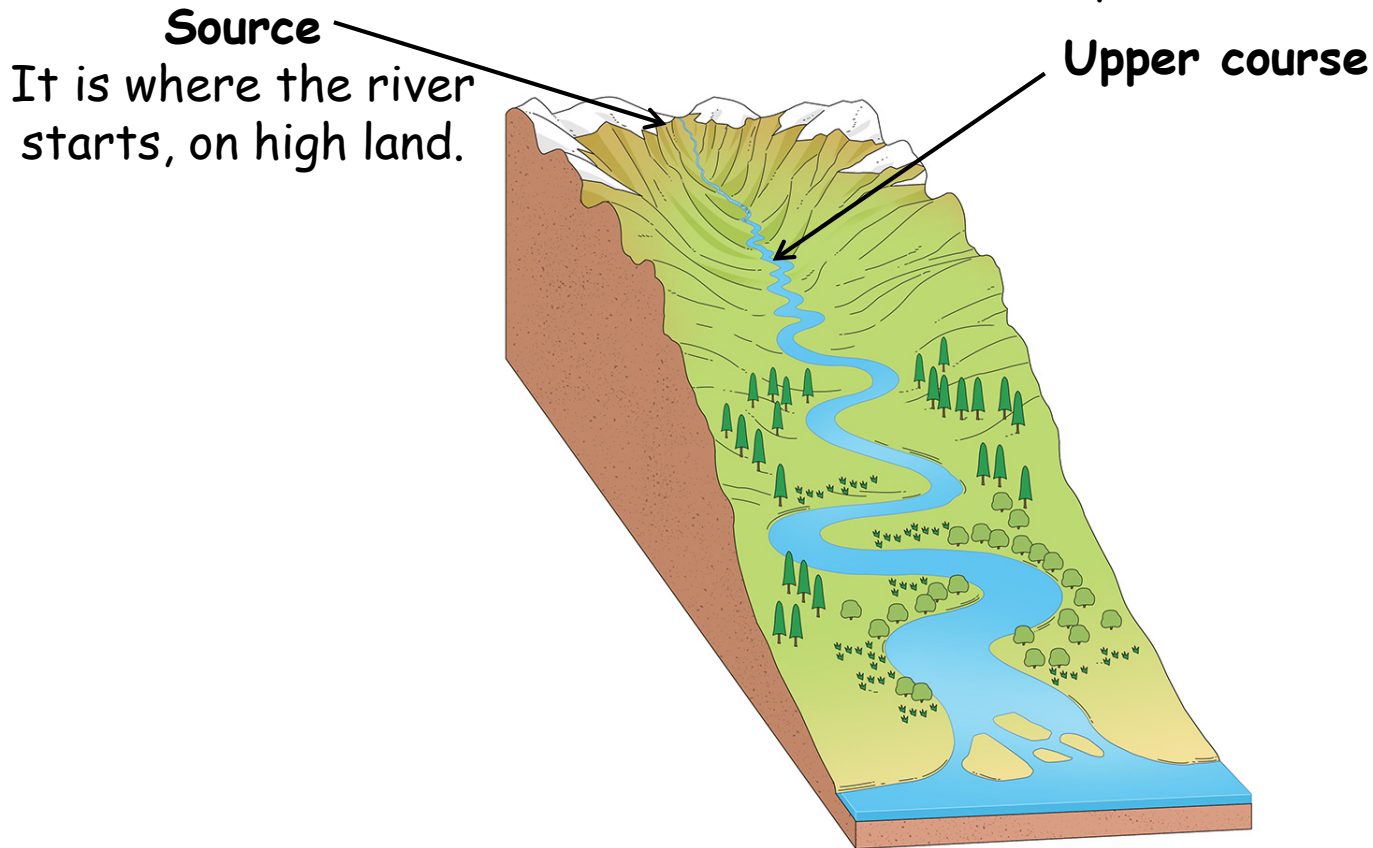
Source

It is where the river starts, on high land.



Rivers

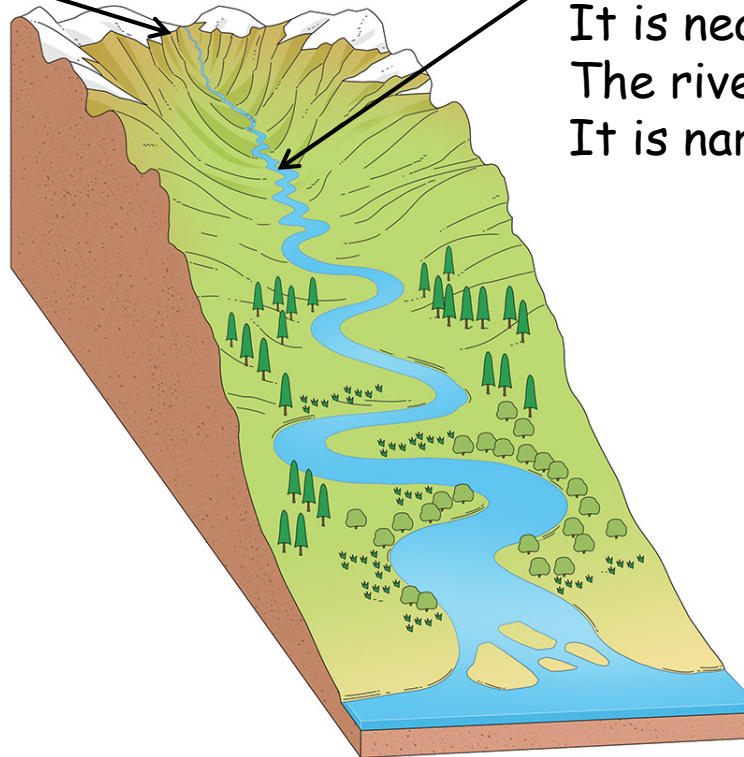
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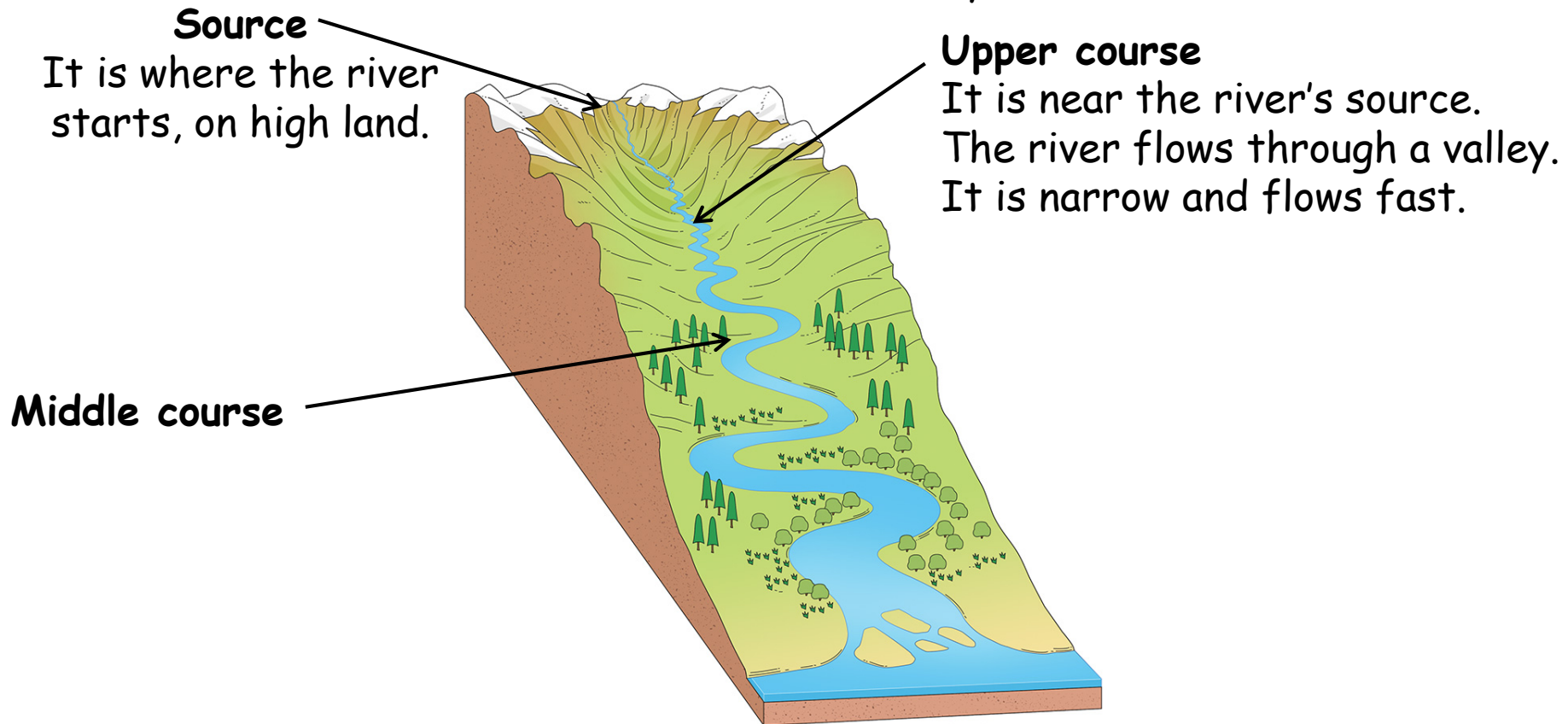
Source
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Upper course
It is near the river's source. The river flows through a valley. It is narrow and flows fast.

Rivers

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Rivers

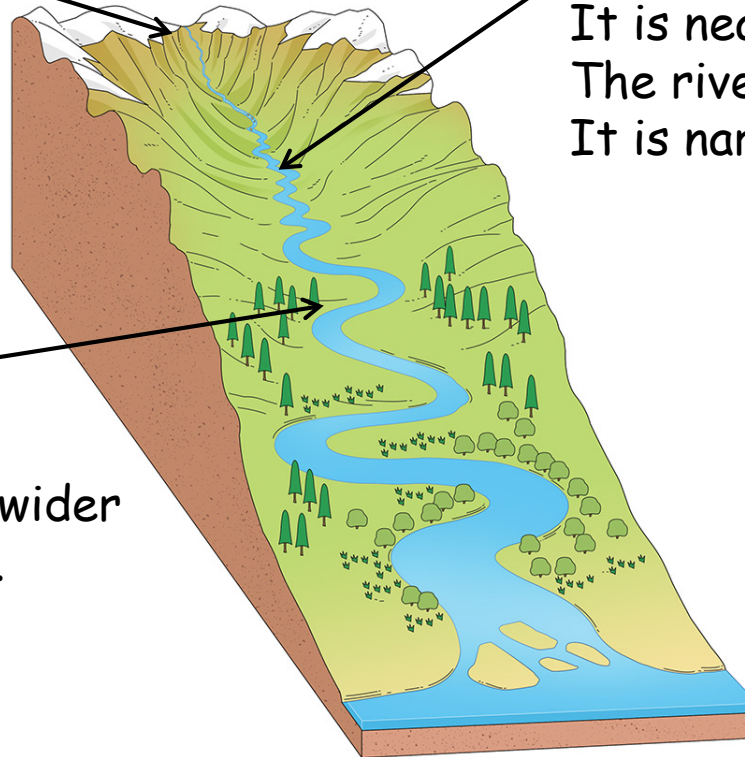
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Middle course

The valley is wider with slopes. The river is also wider and it flows more slowly.

Rivers

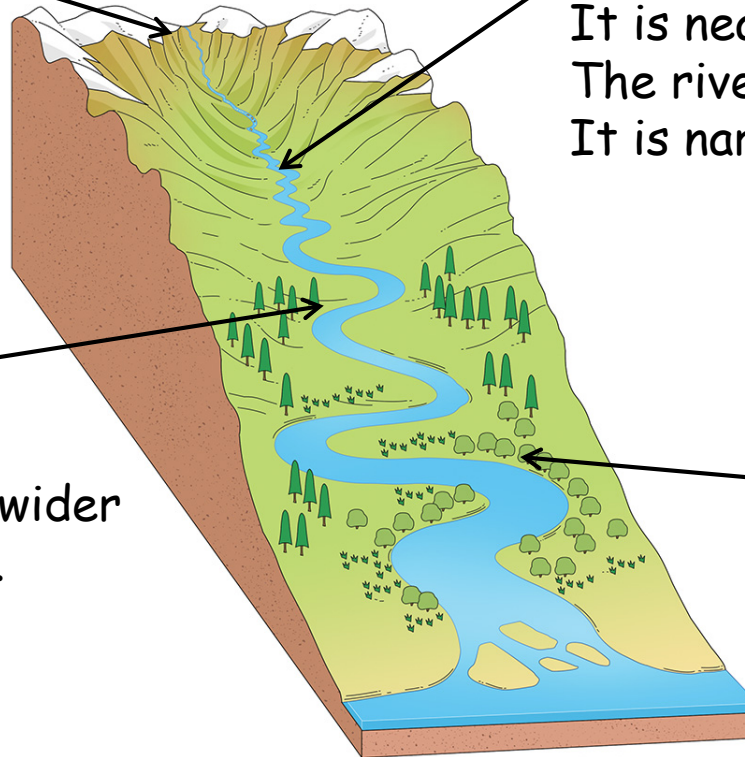
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Lower course

Rivers

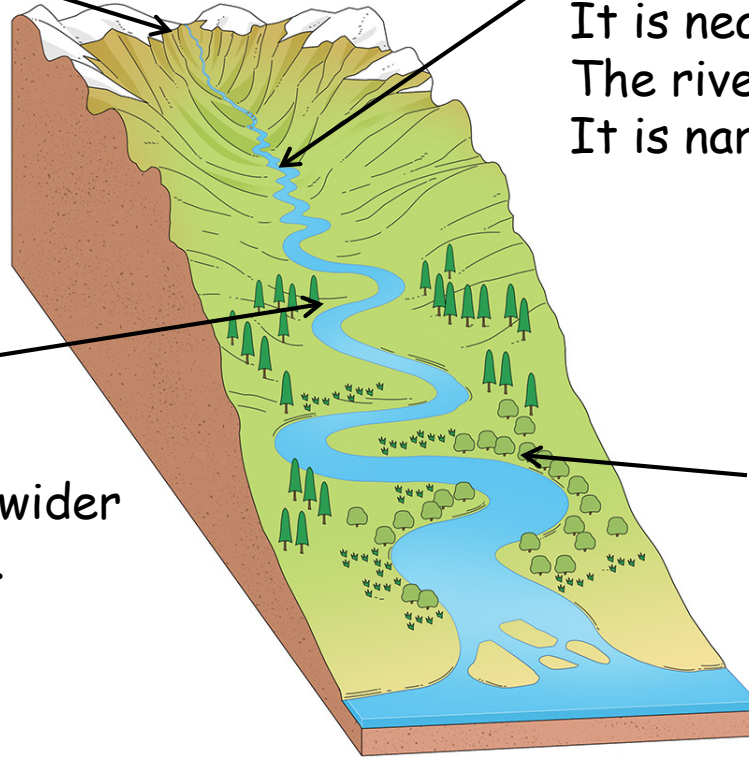
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Middle course

The valley is wider with slopes. The river is also wider and it flows more slowly.

Lower course

The river flows across a plain, so it goes very slowly. This is where the **mouth** of the river is located.

Rivers



Rivers

Rivers can have **tributaries**. A tributary is a river that flows into another river.



Rivers



Rivers can have **tributaries**. A tributary is a river that flows into another river. All rivers have a **river basin**, which is an area of land around the river and its tributaries.

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All the precipitation that falls on that area drains into the river and its tributaries.

Rivers



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All rivers also belong to a **watershed**. This describes the sea, ocean or lake they flow into.