

Water: The Essence of Life

Glossary

Astrobiologists - A person who studies the possibility of life outside of our planet.

Aquifers - As water seeps into the soil, areas of rocks or sand underneath the earth's surface will hold this water. These areas are called aquifers.

Condensation - The changing state of water vapour in the atmosphere to liquid drops. This process forms clouds.

Evaporation - The process of changing a substance from liquid to gas/vapour state.

Ground Ice - Frozen water in the ground.

Groundwater - Water in aquifers under the ground.

Infiltration - The process by which precipitation or water on the Earth's surface soaks into soil layers.

Natural Resource - Useful substances found naturally on the surface or within Earth's core, not made by humans.

Permafrost - Ground that remains completely frozen for 2 years or more.

Precipitation - Any form of water that falls from the atmosphere to Earth's surface as rain, sleet, hail or snow.

Pollution - Release of hazardous materials into the environment

Surface Water - Any fresh water body above the ground like rivers, lakes, streams.

Surface Water Runoff - The water from precipitation, snow melt and other sources that flows over Earth's surface.

Transpiration - The process where plants absorb water through their roots and release water vapour from pores in their leaves.