

# 20 Even more amazing water facts

Water regulates the temperature of the human body, carries nutrients and oxygen to cells, cushions joints, protects organs and tissues, and removes wastes

Water dissolves more substances than any other liquid. Wherever it travels, water carries chemicals, minerals and nutrients with it

The deepest part of any ocean is the Marianas Trench in the Pacific Ocean, measuring 10,994 metres in depth

Water expands by around 9% when it freezes, making it less dense, which is why ice floats on water

Water can be used to create electricity – hydropower. Water is used to drive water turbines connected to generators. There are many hydro-electric power stations around the world

Water regulates the earth's temperature

A large oak tree can transpire 151,000 litres of water into the atmosphere per year

Water can move up narrow tubes against the force of gravity in what is known as capillary action

A family of 4 in NZ uses about 233,000 litres of water annually

Ocean tides are caused by the rotation of the Earth and the gravitational pull of the moon and the sun acting on ocean water

Water is composed of two elements, Hydrogen and Oxygen.  $2 \text{ Hydrogen} + 1 \text{ Oxygen} = \text{H}_2\text{O}$

Water is actually a blue colour when there is enough of it. Although water looks clear in a glass, from space the oceans are definitely blue

The freezing point of water lowers as the amount of salt dissolved in it increases. With average levels of salt, seawater freezes at  $-2^\circ\text{C}$

The weight of the average cumulus (white fluffy) cloud is 500,000 kilograms, the same weight as 100 elephants

When water contains a lot of calcium or magnesium, it is called hard water. Hard water does not easily lather with soap

Oceans and seas are salty because as water flows in rivers, it picks up mineral salts from rocks and soil. It then flows into oceans and seas. The salts remain dissolved in the water

Water in the form of ice is found at the polar ice caps of the planet Mars

Every natural food contains water – a watermelon is 92% water, a banana is 74% water

The heaviest hailstones weighed 1 kg, they fell in 1986 in Bangladesh

About one tenth of the earth's surface is permanently covered with ice

