

**FOSS Water Module
Glossary
2005 Edition**

Absorb: When a liquid soaks into a material. (TG)

Algae: Any of a large group of mostly aquatic organisms that contain the green pigment chlorophyll but lack veins. (SS)

Bead: When a liquid sits on top of a material in drops. (TG)

Blade: The part of a waterwheel that the water pushes as it moves downward. (TG)

Condensation: The process by which water vapor changes into liquid water, usually on a surface. (SS)

Condense: When water vapor touches a cool surface and becomes liquid water. (TG)

Contract: To get smaller; to take up less space. (TG)

Cycle: A process or action that repeats itself in the same order over time. (SS)

Denser: When an object sinks in water, it is denser than water. (TG)

Dissolve: To break down into particles so small when mixed with water that a substance seems to disappear. (SS, TG)

Dome: The shape a drop of water takes when it is on a flat surface. It is like a flattened hemisphere. (TG)

Drain: to make or become gradually dry or empty. (TG)

Earth materials: Any substance that makes up or comes from the earth. (TG)

Evaporate: When water in a material dries up and goes into the air. (TG)

Evaporation: The process by which liquid water changes into water vapor. (SS)

Expand: To get bigger; to take up more space. (TG)

Flash flood: A sudden flow of water over the land. Flash floods usually occur within a few minutes or hours of excessive rainfall. (SS)

Float: To stay on the surface of water as a result of being less dense than water. (TG)

Flow: The movement of liquid over a surface. (TG)

Freeze: To change from a liquid to a solid state as a result of cooling. (SS)

Gas: A state of a substance with no definite shape or volume; usually invisible. (SS)

Glacier: A large mass of ice moving slowly over land. (SS)

Gravity: The natural force that pulls objects toward each other. On Earth, all objects are pulled toward the center of the Earth. (SS)

Ice: The solid state of water. (SS)

Iceberg: A large mass of ice that has become detached from a glacier and floats in the ocean. (SS)

Less dense: When an object floats in water, it is less dense than water. (TG)

Liquid: A state of a substance with no definite shape but a definite volume. (SS)

Matter: Anything that has mass. (SS)

Melt: To change from a solid to a liquid state as a result of warming. (SS)

Molecule: The smallest part of a substance that is made up of two or more atoms. (SS)

Property: A characteristic of a material or an object, something that you can observe such as color, smell, and taste. (TG)

Seriate: To put objects in order by one property. (TG)

Shaft: The part of a waterwheel that the blades turn. (TG)

Sink: To go under water as a result of being denser than water. (TG)

Slope: A slanted or tilted surface. (TG, SS)

Soak: To be absorbed or move into another material. (TG)

Solid: A state of a substance with a definite shape and volume. (SS)

Storm surge: Water pushed ahead of a storm like snow before a shovel. Water piles up along a coast, rushing toward land faster than it can return to sea. (SS)

Surface area: The area of liquid exposed to or touching the air. (TG)

Surface tension: The skinlike surface on water (and other liquids) that pulls it together into the smallest possible volume (a sphere). (TG, SS)

Thermometer: A tool used to measure temperature. (TG)

Water: A liquid earth material made of hydrogen and oxygen. (SS, TG)

Water cycle: The sequence of condensation and evaporation of water on Earth, causing clouds and rain and other forms of precipitation. (TG)

Water quality: A term used to describe the purity of water. (TG, SS)

Water vapor: The gaseous state of water. (SS, TG)