

FOSS Water Module

Glossary

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absorb when a liquid soaks into a material (SRB, IG)

aquifer water that is underground in layers of rock or sediment (SRB)

bead a dome-shaped drop of water (SRB, IG)

bead up when water drops, or beads, sit on top of a waterproof surface (IG)

blade the part of a waterwheel that the water pushes as it moves downward (SRB, IG)

condensation the process by which water vapor changes into liquid water, usually on a surface (SRB, IG)

condense when water vapor touches a cool surface and becomes liquid water (SRB)

conserve to use carefully and protect (SRB)

contract to get smaller; to take up less space (SRB, IG)

decomposing organic matter humus; dead or discarded parts of plants and animals (SRB)

density the amount of mass compared to the volume (SRB)

dew water that condenses on a surface when the temperature drops at night (SRB)

direction the course or line along which something moves, faces, lies or points (IG)

dome the shape a drop of water takes when it is on a flat surface. It is like a flattened hemisphere. (IG)

drainage the movement of water through soil (IG)

earth material any substance that makes up or comes from the earth (IG)

electricity a form of energy that can produce light, heat, and magnetism (SRB)

energy source a place where energy comes from, such as coal, petroleum, and natural gas (SRB)

evaporate when liquid water in a material dries up and goes into the air (SRB)

evaporation the process by which liquid water changes into water vapor (SRB, IG)

expand to get bigger; to take up more space (SRB, IG)

expansion an increase in volume (SRB)

float to stay on the surface of water as a result of being less dense than water (SRB, IG)

force strength or power exerted on an object (SRB)

fossil fuel a fuel extracted from Earth, such as petroleum, natural gas, or coal (SRB)

freeze to change from a liquid to a solid state as a result of cooling (SRB, IG)

fresh water water that is in lakes, rivers, ground water, soil, and the atmosphere (SRB)

gas a state of matter with no definite shape or volume; usually invisible (SRB, IG)

glacier a large mass of ice moving slowly over land (SRB)

gravel rocks that are smaller than pebbles and drain water quickly (IG)

gravity the natural force that pulls objects toward each other. On Earth, all objects are pulled toward the center of Earth. (SRB, IG)

humus bits of dead plant and animal parts in the soil (SRB, IG)

hurricane a severe tropical storm that produces high winds (SRB)

ice the solid state of water (SRB)

iceberg a large mass of ice that has broken from a glacier and floats in the ocean (SRB)

less dense when an object floats in water, it is less dense than water (IG)

liquid a state of matter with no definite shape but a definite volume (SRB, IG)

mass the amount of material in something (SRB, IG)

matter anything that has mass (SRB)

melt to change from a solid to a liquid state as a result of warming (SRB, IG)

mixture two or more substances together (SRB)

more dense when an object has more mass for its size than another object. When an object sinks in water, it is denser than water. (SRB, IG)

move to change place or direction; to put in motion (IG)

natural material any material that makes up or comes from the earth; earth material (IG)

natural resource a material such as soil or water that comes from the natural environment (SRB, IG)

nonrenewable resource a natural resource that cannot be replaced if it is used up. Coal, petroleum, and natural gas are nonrenewable resources. (SRB, IG)

perpetual renewable resource a renewable resource that lasts forever (SRB)

precipitation rain, snow, sleet, or hail that falls to the ground (SRB)

property something that you can observe about an object or a material. Size, color, shape, texture, and smell are properties. (SRB)

relationship a connection or association (IG)

renewable resource a natural resource that can replace or replenish itself naturally over time. Air, plants, water, and animals are renewable resources. (SRB, IG)

repel when a liquid does not soak into a material (IG)

reservoir a place where water is collected and stored (SRB)

retain to hold or continue to hold (SRB, IG)

runoff rain that does not evaporate or soak into the ground (SRB)

salt water ocean water (SRB)

shaft the part of a waterwheel that the blades turn (SRB, IG)

sink to go under water as a result of being denser than water (SRB, IG)

slope a slanted or tilted surface (SRB, IG)

soak to be absorbed or move into another material (SRB)

soil a mixture of humus, sand, silt, clay, gravel, or pebbles (SRB, IG)

solar radiation light from the Sun (SRB)

solid a state of matter that has a definite shape and volume (SRB, IG)

state a kind or form of matter. The three common states of matter are solid, liquid, and gas. (IG)

storm surge when water piles up along a coast, rushing toward land faster than it can return to sea (SRB)

surface the outside of an object (IG)

surface area the area of liquid exposed to or touching the air (SRB, IG)

surface tension the skinlike surface on water (and other liquids) that pulls it together into the smallest possible volume (SRB, IG)

temperature a description of how hot or cold something is (IG)

texture the feel or general appearance of an object or a material (SRB)

thermometer a tool used to measure temperature (SRB, IG)

volume three-dimensional space (SRB, IG)

water a liquid earth material made of hydrogen and oxygen (SRB)

water cycle the repeating sequence of condensation and evaporation of water on Earth, causing clouds and rain and other forms of precipitation (SRB, IG)

water quality a term used to describe the purity of water (SRB)

water retention the ability to soak up and hold water (IG)

water turbine a modern waterwheel (SRB)

water vapor the gaseous state of water (SRB, IG)

waterproof a nonporous or nonabsorbent surface on which water will bead up and flow off (IG)

waterwheel a wheel turned by the force of moving water (SRB, IG)