

# The Hydrosphere

Chapter 8: The Hydrosphere · Topic 1

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## Key Concept

Oceans make up the largest part of the hydrosphere, covering about 71% of Earth's surface and containing about 97% of Earth's water.

Freshwater sources, like rivers, lakes, and groundwater, make up a small percentage of total water but are essential for drinking and agriculture.

The water cycle continuously moves water between the hydrosphere, atmosphere, and land through evaporation, condensation, and precipitation.

Understanding the hydrosphere helps us appreciate water's importance for climate regulation, ecosystems, and human survival.

## Quick Revision Notes

- The hydrosphere includes all Earth's water.
- Oceans cover about 71% of Earth's surface.
- Oceans contain about 97% of Earth's water.
- Freshwater includes rivers, lakes, groundwater.
- Freshwater is a small percentage of total water.
- It's essential for drinking and agriculture.
- The water cycle moves water continuously.
- This involves evaporation, condensation, precipitation.

## Practice Questions

- 1 Discuss the percentage of Earth's water in oceans versus freshwater.
- 2 Draw the water cycle with labels.
- 3 Research why freshwater is limited but essential.
- 4 Discuss the importance of groundwater.
- 5 Explain how the hydrosphere affects climate.
- 6 Discuss ways to conserve freshwater.