Where Water Waits

Read water data, then graph where Earth stores its water.

5-ESS2-2 "Describe and graph the amounts of salt water and fresh water in various reservoirs to provide evidence about the distribution of water on Earth."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline the water reservoirs named in the passage and circle numbers that tell how much of Earth's water they hold. Number the table rows from 1 for the largest share to 3 for the smallest.

One Hundred Buckets of Water

1. Imagine collecting every drop of water on Earth and dividing it into 100 equal buckets. The oceans would fill about 97 buckets. That water is salty, so people cannot drink it without removing the salt. The remaining buckets stand for fresh water. The table shows these rounded amounts as percentages of all the water on Earth.

ABOUT WHERE EARTH'S WATER IS STORED

Reservoir	Water type	Percent of all Earth's water
Fresh groundwater, lakes, rivers, and other small stores	Fresh	1%
Oceans	Salt	97%
Glaciers and ice caps	Fresh	2%

2. Most fresh water is not splashing in a stream. About two out of every 100 buckets of Earth's water are fresh water locked in glaciers and ice caps. About one bucket holds fresh water stored underground, in lakes and rivers, or in other small places. Lakes and rivers make up only a tiny share of that last bucket.

3. To graph these amounts, give each reservoir a bar. Label the vertical axis with the percent of all Earth's water, from zero to 100. A taller bar shows a larger share. A graph can make differences easier to see. These percentages are rounded, so they show the main pattern, not a count of every drop.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. How many percentage points more of Earth's water is in oceans than in glaciers and ice caps? Show your subtraction.

2. Which fresh water reservoir group in the table holds more water? How do the percentages compare?

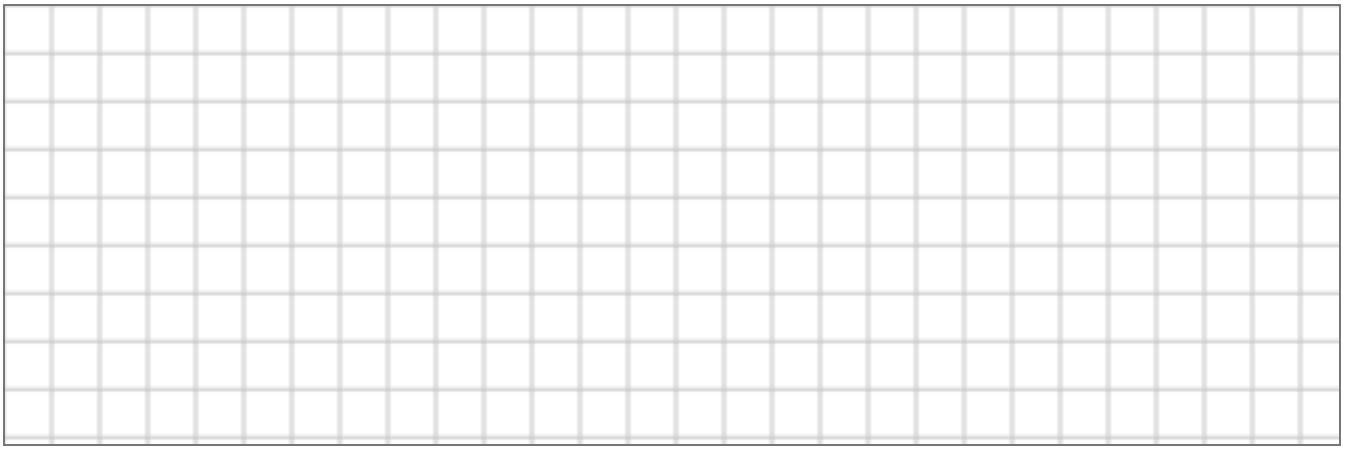
3. If 100 equal squares showed all of Earth's water, how many squares would show fresh water? Use the table to explain.

4. Can you use the table to find the exact percent of Earth's water in rivers alone? Explain.

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

On the grid, draw a bar graph for the three table rows. Label each bar and a percent scale from 0 to 100, then write two sentences comparing ocean salt water with all fresh water and telling where most fresh water is stored.



ANSWER KEY

Where Water Waits

GRADE 5 · 5-ESS2-2

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline the water reservoirs named in the passage and circle numbers that tell how much of Earth's water they hold. Number the table rows from 1 for the largest share to 3 for the smallest. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	How many percentage points more of Earth's water is in oceans than in glaciers and ice caps? Show your subtraction.	**97% minus 2% equals 95 percentage points.**
2	Which fresh water reservoir group in the table holds more water? How do the percentages compare?	**Glaciers and ice caps hold more. Their 2% share is twice the 1% share in the other fresh water group.**
3	If 100 equal squares showed all of Earth's water, how many squares would show fresh water? Use the table to explain.	**Three squares, because the two fresh water rows add to 2% plus 1%, or 3%.**
4	Can you use the table to find the exact percent of Earth's water in rivers alone? Explain.	**No. Rivers are grouped with groundwater, lakes, and other small stores in the 1% row.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Bar heights: fresh groundwater, lakes, rivers, and other small stores, 1%; oceans, 97%; glaciers and ice caps, 2%. Oceans hold about 97% of Earth's water, while fresh water accounts for about 3%. Most fresh water is stored in glaciers and ice caps, which hold about 2% of all Earth's water.

Accept bars in any order if each is labeled with the correct percentage and the scale runs from 0 to 100. The written comparison should combine both fresh water rows to get about 3%.