

In addition to the descriptions listed below, students may research a specific water user during the week prior to this activity.



## Agriculture:

Water is used to produce food and fiber for processing and consumption.

Sugar cane grower: Uses water to irrigate crops and transport chemicals (pesticides and fertilizers) to crops. Cattle rancher: Uses water to grow food and provide drinking water for cattle and to clean their areas for living and feeding, transporting waste to holding ponds.

Wheat farmer: Uses water to irrigate crops.

Dairy farmer: Uses water to grow food and provide drinking water for cows and to sanitize milking equipment and stalls

## Mining:

Water is used in the extraction process of raw materials (coal, iron, gold, copper, sand and gravel).

**Miner:** Uses water to carry and wash rock material during the mineral removal processes.

Sand and gravel company: Uses water to wash fine soil and rock material out of sand and gravel formations. Sand and gravel are used in cement and road construction.

## Logging:

Water is used to grow and harvest trees.

**Forest manager:** Uses water to support tree growth and control fires.

**Logging company:** Uses water to float rafts of logs (on rivers and lakes) to collection points.

# Transporting/Shipping:

Water (rivers, seas, oceans) is used to transport raw materials and finished products to points of distribution (ports).

**Slurry pipeline owner:** Uses water to transport pulverized coal through pipelines to distant coal-fired power plants.

**Ship's crew:** Uses water to haul raw materials (e.g., logs, oil, gas, wheat) and finished products (e.g., automobiles, appliances, processed food) to points of transfer.

## **Business/Industry:**

Water is used in the processing and manufacturing of goods (e.g.,cars, food, medical supplies, etc.).

**Steel producer:** Uses large volumes of water to process iron ore into steel. **Textile manufacturer:** Uses water to wash and process raw materials (e.g., wool, cotton, mohair). Dye is mixed with water to color fabric.

**Paper mill:** Uses water to transport pulp fibers for paper making and to carry away waste.

#### Wildlife:

Water provides habitat for countless plant and animal species.

Mammals: Beavers, muskrats and otters live in and near waterways. Fish: Trout, salmon and carp live in water and eat organisms that live in water.

**Insects:** Aquatic insects are a food source for many other organisms. **Vegetation:** Trees and other plants use water in photosynthesis and to transport nutrients.

#### **Recreation:**

People recreate in and around water for exercise and enjoyment.

**Cruise ship:** People travel to many parts of the world in cruise ships. **Fishing:** People catch fish in rivers, lakes and oceans.

Water theme park: Uses water to transport people on exciting and fun rides.

**Scuba diver:** People enjoy exploring underwater environments.

**Winter sports:** Snow and ice provide fun for skaters, skiers and sledders.

#### **Power Generation:**

Water is used to generate electricity. **Hydropower plant:** Water flowing in rivers is stored behind dams in reservoirs. As water is released by the dam, it turns turbines that generate electricity

**Nuclear power plant:** Uses water in cooling towers to maintain safe operating temperatures.

**Coal-fired power plant:** Burning coal produces steam heat that turns turbines, creating electricity.

## Community:

Water is used by community members for domestic, maintenance and recreational purposes.

**Domestic users:** Water is used in a multitude of ways in and around the home.

**Fire department:** Uses water to extinguish fires.

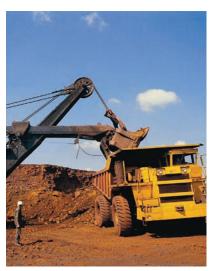
Street cleaner: Uses water to wash oil, litter and other materials from streets. Restaurant owner: Uses water to cook meals, clean the restaurant and water lawns/grounds.







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