

## **Kid's Corner - Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)**

*Q: What is the water cycle?*

A: The endless circulation of water from the atmosphere to the earth and its return to the atmosphere through condensation, precipitation, evaporation and transpiration is called the water or hydrologic cycle.

*Q: What are water sources?*

A: Water sources are the points from which your water comes. These include rivers, springs, ponds and wells. Water that comes from rivers, springs and ponds is called surface water. Water that runs underground and is tapped by a well is called groundwater. Most of Jamaica's water is underground.

*Q: How does water get to our taps?*

A:

- Water is pumped from a well or diverted from a river or spring.
- This water runs through pipelines to a treatment plant where the water is made safe for drinking.
- The treated water then is transferred by pipelines to our homes and taps.
- In most cases the water may first be sent to a storage tank before getting to our taps.

*Q: What are the different uses of water?*

A: Water is used for the following:

*Domestic Purposes*

cooking

drinking

bathing

washing

*Agricultural Purposes*

farming

gardening.

fisheries

*Industrial Purposes*

manufacturing

*Recreation*

swimming

rafting

boating

*Hydropower generation*

*Q: How do we pollute or contaminate our water?*

A: Waste water, sewage, chemicals, fertilizers, oil and grease, diesel oil and gasoline runs into rivers or seeps into groundwater from:

- Pit latrines/Soak away pits
- Factories
- Farms
- Garbage dumps
- Underground storage tanks such as at gas stations

*Q: What can I do to protect my water?*

A:

1. Never defecate or urinate in or near drinking water or bathing water sources
2. Keep animals away from water sources
3. Never throw garbage in our rivers
4. Never throw toxic material in rivers e.g. oils and sprays
5. Never throw or dispose of any waste into sinkholes
6. Do not cut down trees

*Q: How can we make water safe for drinking?*

A:

- Boiling
- Chlorinating
- Use of Bleach

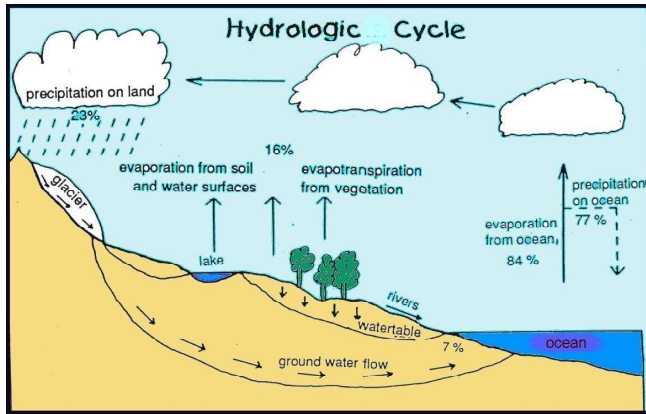
*Q: How can we protect ourselves from water-borne diseases?*

A: We can protect ourselves by:

- Washing our hands with soap after using the toilet
- Washing food (fruits and vegetables) before eating
- Practicing good sanitation

Q:

## What is the Water Cycle?



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Q:

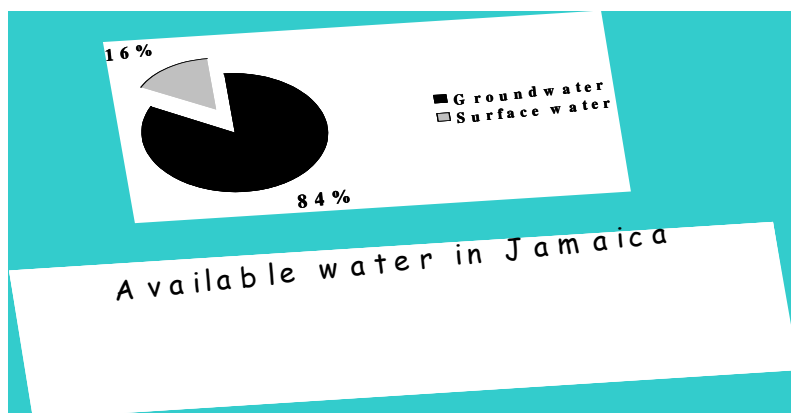
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