



Social Studies Virtual Learning

Geography

May 7, 2020



Geography

Lesson 34: May 7, 2020

Objective/Learning Target: How has access to water impacted the people of Africa?

Warm-up

Use the link below to access a water calculator for your household. You may not know every answer, but take your best guess.

<https://www.watercalculator.org/wfc2/q/household/>

After you have calculated your household water use, record it on a piece of paper.

Where there any other uses of water the calculator did not take into consideration?

Here is a chart of some other uses of water:

| How much water does it take to... | |
|--|----------------|
| manufacture a new car? | 39,090 gallons |
| make one pound of plastic? | 24 gallons |
| refine one barrel of crude oil? | 1,851 gallons |
| produce one ton of steel? | 62,600 gallons |
| make one pound of wool or cotton? | 101 gallons |
| grow and produce one loaf of bread? | 150 gallons |
| grow and produce one chicken? | 400 gallons |
| grow and produce one orange? | 13.8 gallons |

Warm-up

Just about everything that is produced or consumed requires the use of water. Over half of the world's population uses less than 25 gallons of water per day. The average American uses about 85 gallons of water per day.

Facts About World Water Availability

- 97% of the world's water is salt water
- 2% of the world's water is fresh and locked in polar ice caps
- 1% of the world's water is fresh and available for human use
- Over half of the world's freshwater resources is polluted.



Lesson Activity:

Next we are going to watch a 6 minute video report produced by the Common Language Project in association with the Pulitzer Center on Crisis Reporting called “Water Wars”. As you watch the video consider how this water shortage in East Africa is affecting people’s lives?

<https://pulitzercenter.org/reporting/focus-water-wars>

There are three questions on the next slide for you to answer over the video.



Practice

1. What do you think the filmmaker's purpose is in creating this video report?
2. Does "Water Wars" provide any indication that climate change is a part of this problem?
3. In what ways is the issue in East Africa local? In what ways is it global?

Answers

1. Create awareness of the effects of climate change on access to water.
2. Yes, drought is drying up the water wells, less water in rivers, drought has been occurring for six years
3. Local-lack of water for plants, water wells are drying up, cattle are dying from lack of water.

Global-Sometimes to access water, people/animals have to cross borders. It will cause some people to change their way of life.

Reflection

Access to water is not just an issue in Africa. Use the link below to learn about the issues to water access worldwide.

On your piece of paper, write down five items that affect daily life as it relates to access to water.

<https://water.org/our-impact/water-crisis/>

Possible Answers

1 in 9 people lack access to safe water

1 in 3 people lack access to a toilet

Females spend over 200 million hours every day collecting water

1 million people die each year because of lack of water, sanitation, and hygiene related diseases.

1 in 3 schools lack access to basic water and sanitation.

\$260 billion dollars is lost each year do to lack of water and sanitation.