

Vocabulary

- habitat
- groundwater
- water cycle
- evaporation
- transpiration
- precipitation

Skills

- 🎯 Reading: Identify the Main Idea
- 🔺 Inquiry: Observe

Why Is Water Important?

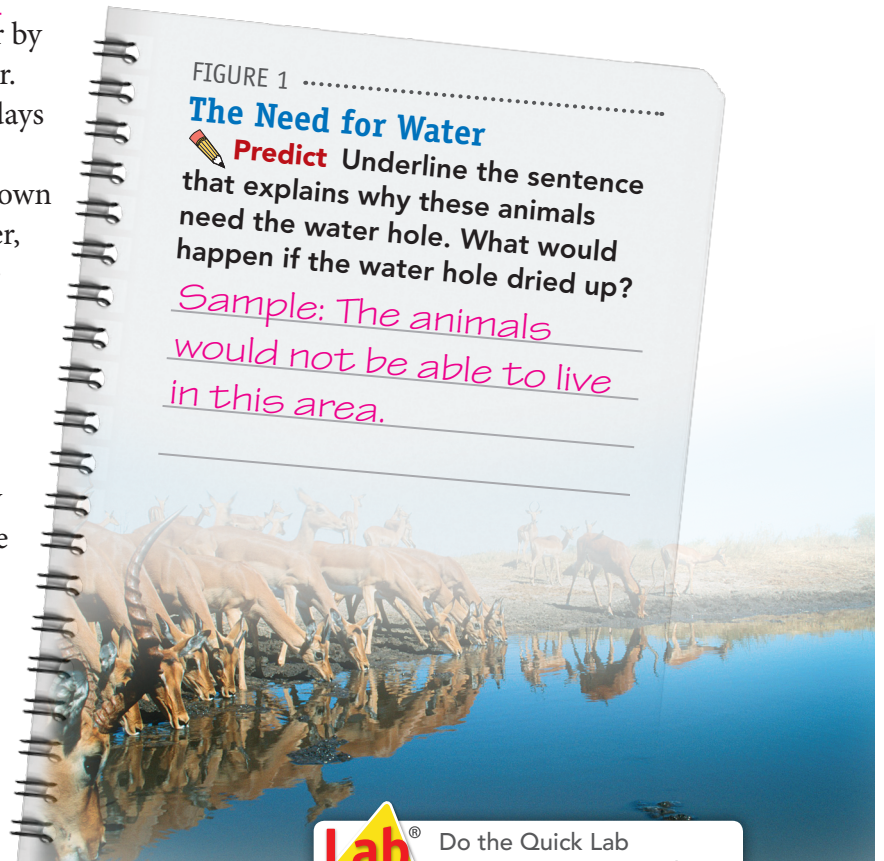
What do you and an apple have in common? You both consist mostly of water! Water makes up nearly two thirds of your body's mass. That water is necessary to keep your body functioning.

🔑 All living things need water in order to carry out their body processes. In addition, many living things live in water.

Body Processes Without water, neither you nor an apple could survive. Water allows organisms to break down food, grow, reproduce, and get and use materials they need from their environments. Animals obtain water by drinking it or by eating foods that contain water. Most animals cannot survive more than a few days without water.

Plants and other organisms that make their own food also need water. Algae and plants use water, along with carbon dioxide and energy from the sun, to make their own food in a process called photosynthesis (foh toh SIN thuh sis). Other organisms get food by eating the plants, or by eating organisms that eat the plants.

Habitats Water provides habitats for many living things. An organism's **habitat** is the place where it lives and obtains all the things it needs to survive. Some organisms cannot live out of water. You are probably familiar with large water-dwelling organisms such as sharks. But most such organisms are microscopic. In fact, aquatic, or water, habitats contain more types of organisms than land habitats do.



Do the Quick Lab
Water, Water, Everywhere.

🔑 Assess Your Understanding

got it?

- I get it! Now I know that living things use water to perform body processes that keep them alive and as a habitat.
- I need extra help with See TE note.

Go to **my science** **COACH** online for help with this subject.