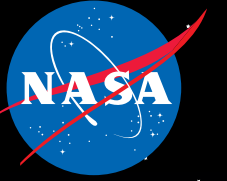


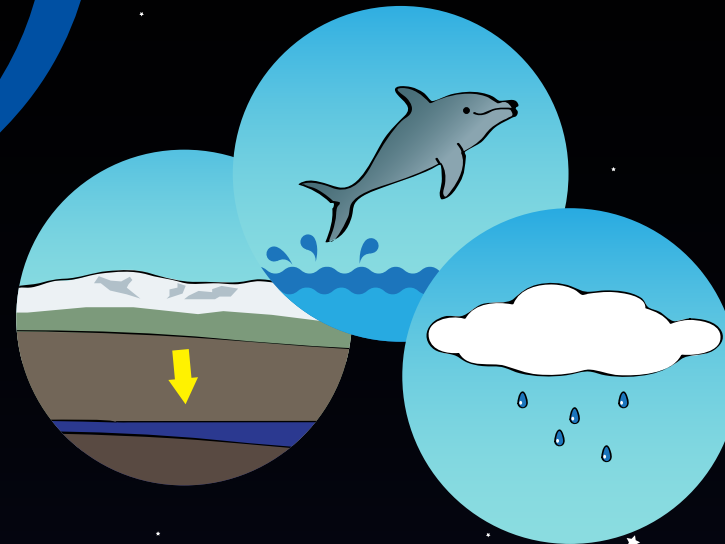
How much water is on Earth?

National Aeronautics and
Space Administration



Earth is special because it
has so much water

It's in the ground, forms big
oceans, and it's in our atmo-
sphere.



It's also in living
things. Your body is
made up mostly of
water.

Just 3.5% of the water on Earth is fresh water
we can drink. And most of that fresh water,
68%, is trapped in ice and glaciers.



Na Cl
Sodium Chloride

Almost all of it —
96.5% — is salt water.
Salt water has differ-
ent kinds of salt in it,
but it mostly has
sodium chloride; the
same salt we add to
our food.



71%
Water

Water covers 71% of Earth's surface.

A third of the fresh
water is in the
ground. We call it
groundwater.
The last 2% of fresh
water is in the rivers,
lakes, and streams.

A very small amount is
in our atmosphere,
where it exists as water
vapor. That's what
clouds are made of.



If you took all the
water on Earth and
put it together it
would be a ball 860
miles wide.

**That's a lot of
water!**