

SPLASH!

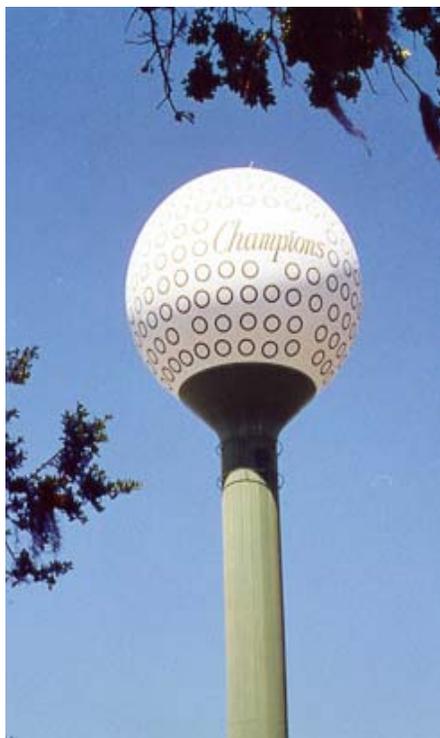
Information for Kids about Water



Do you know how the Water Cycle works?

This is the neverending circulation of water from clouds to earth to the ocean and back to the clouds again.

1. The sun heats the earth's water (lakes and streams) so it evaporates or changes its form to a vapor.
2. As the air rises and cools, the tiny water droplets in the vapor get back together and form clouds.
3. Water is returned to earth in the form of rain or snow.
4. The rivers and streams also get water from melting mountain snow, and rivers ultimately flow into the oceans -- and the cycle continues.
5. Most of the earth's water is underground in the tiny cracks and spaces in the rocks and soil. Large amounts of underground water are called "aquifers" that get "recharged" from rain, too.



"How does the water get all the way up in the water tower?"

There are many tall towers in our neighborhood. Some even have designs painted on them. Do you know what they are for?

These towers store our drinking water. They are so tall to provide pressure necessary to help move the water when it is needed by our homes and businesses.

A water tower can hold a lot of water...sometimes as much as 50 backyard swimming pools full! Each water tower is designed to hold about a one-day supply for all the people it serves.

Big pumps help to move the water to where it is needed. Sometimes, everyone uses water at once, like in the mornings to flush toilets, brush their teeth, and take showers. At other times, like at night when we are sleeping -- and hardly use any water at all -- the pumps replenish the supply of clean water in the tanks. The water towers are an important part of our water system. They help make sure that when we turn on the faucet to wash our hands, the water we expect will be there. 💧