**BIG IDEA on WATER Distribution**

**S6E3. Obtain, evaluate, and communicate information to recognize the significant role of water in Earth processes.**

1. Ask questions to determine where water is located on Earth’s surface (oceans, rivers, lakes, swamps, groundwater, aquifers, and ice) and communicate the relative proportion of water at each location.

The majority of the Earth's surface is covered with water

Most of the water on the Earth is salt water. Only a small amount is fresh water, including water in rivers, lakes, underground water, and in the form of ice.

Water cycles on earth as liquid, solid, and vapor.

The water, which is a solvent, falling on land, collects in rivers and lakes, soil, and porous layers of rock, and dissolves salts. Much of it flows back into the ocean, which causes the ocean’s salinity.

**97% of Earth’s water is salty.**

**3% of Earth’s water is fresh.**

**Less than 1% of Earth’s water is usable by humans.**