

# Water Footprint

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

## BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

"Water, water everywhere, but not a drop to drink!" is a lament by many a famous sailor adrift on the high seas without any fresh water, including the Ancient Mariner.

Presently we are all starting to get adrift in water woes. That's because population is increasing and clean fresh water is becoming a scarce commodity on Earth. We should feel lucky we are in Puget Sound where we have a good supply of water!

Today you are going to do some fancy footwork and calculate your water footprint. You'll then compare your footprint to other countries around the world. A **water footprint** includes all of the water you use for drinking, cooking, and washing, as well as the water it takes to make your food, clothes, paper and other goods you need regularly. So let's find out how much water you *really* use!

**Purpose:** I understand how much my personal water consumption (footprint) is and to determine what part of my footprint comes from outside of the United States.

**INSTRUCTIONS:** Your voyage begins at "<http://www.waterfootprint.org/>". Follow each step and answer each question CQC. Remember to include the UNIT of measurement.

**Step 1:** Go to the "National Water Footprints" tab on the left side of the page.

**Step 2:** Select "Your Country" and enter United States.

**Step 3:** Click "Submit to database".

1. What is the Average water footprint of a United States citizen? \_\_\_\_\_
2. Describe the part of the US footprint that is falling (needs water from) outside of the country.

3. Find the Global average water footprint. \_\_\_\_\_

4. Tell how much more water Americans use than the Global average (on average).

5. Now calculate the avg. water footprint for the Country of Chile. \_\_\_\_\_

6. Tell how much more water Americans use than Chileans. SHOW WORK! In  $m^3$ /capita/yr.

Step 4: Go to "Your Footprint Calculator" tab on the left side of the page

Step 5: Select "Extended Calculator" and complete the survey for yourself. (Ask parents for help as needed, income etc)

7. What is your personal water footprint? \_\_\_\_\_
8. Calculate how much more/less your personal water footprint is than: (Use UNITS)
  - a. The United States average (1 above) \_\_\_\_\_
  - b. The average Global Water Footprint (3 above) \_\_\_\_\_
  - c. The Chilean average (5 above) \_\_\_\_\_

Step 6: Go to the Product Gallery Tab, select the water footprint for each product listed.

9. List the 3 products needing the *MOST* water and tell how much each needs.

Product 1: _____	Water Needed: _____
Product 2: _____	Water Needed: _____
Product 3: _____	Water Needed: _____

10. Find the 3 products on the site that need the *LEAST* water and tell how much each needs.

Product 1: _____	Water Needed: _____
Product 2: _____	Water Needed: _____
Product 3: _____	Water Needed: _____

11. **Challenge / EC:** Find the average water footprint of a. Germany, b. India, and c. China and then calculate how is compared to: a. United States average (1 above) b. The Global average Water Footprint (3 above)

	Versus U.S. Average (1 above)	Versus Global Water Average (3 above)
Germany _____	_____	_____
India _____	_____	_____
China _____	_____	_____