START with a 5-gallon aquarium filled with water.

1. Remove 2 cups of water = all the fresh water on Earth.
2. Pour salt into the remaining aquarium water.
3. Remove 1/2 cup of water from the previously removed 2 cups.
4. Replace the 1 1/2 cups remaining with that much ice = all frozen water in polar ice caps and glaciers.
   The 1/2 cup remaining is all unfrozen fresh water found on the Earth’s surface in the ground and in the air.
5. Fill a dropper from the 1/2 cup and place one drop in a student’s hand.
6. Ask students what they think this amount represents.
   ANSWER: the portion of all the water on Earth that is available for use. All the rest of the 1/2 cup is either polluted, inaccessible, or too costly to transport.
7. Place food coloring in the 1/2 cup.
A single drop of water contains billions of water molecules.

Overall, our bodies are 70% water.

A human can survive for a month or more without eating food, but only a week or so without drinking water.

The average American uses 176 gallons of water per day. An African family uses approximately 5 gallons of water each day.

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