

Water on Earth:

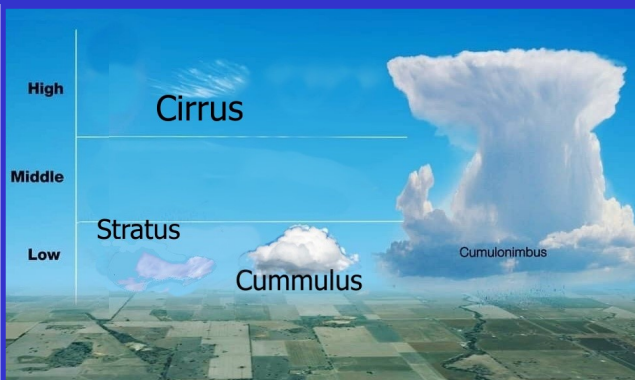
- Seawater cannot be used for drinking or irrigation as it is contaminated with salt
  - Freshwater is more scarce: Antarctica and Greenland have huge supplies, but these are locked up in snow and ice
- ⇒ Rivers, lakes and water-bearing rocks are the main source of freshwater supply

Water cycle is a way in which water moves around the world.

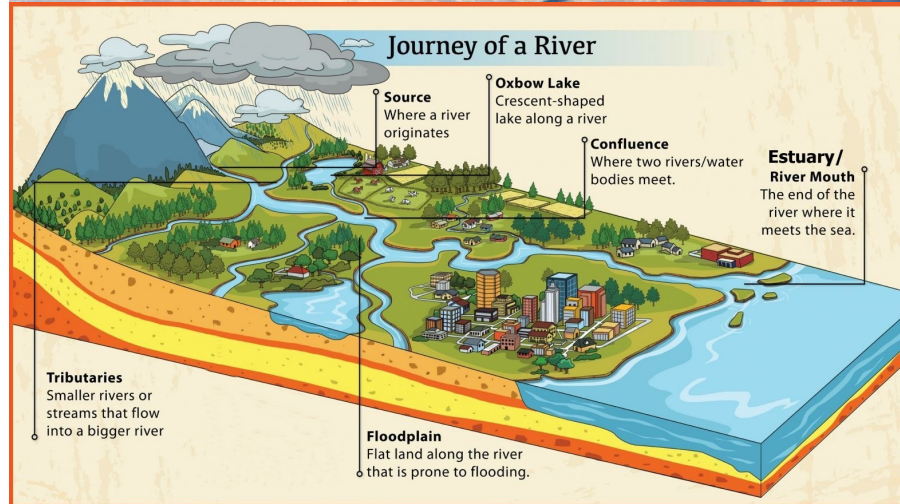
Global climate change is disrupting established weather patterns and causing long-term droughts in areas as far apart as California, sub-Saharan Africa, and western Australia

Ways of improving water supplies:

- ⇒ installing pipes linked to fresh water sources
- ⇒ harvesting rain in tanks
- ⇒ building dams across rivers
- ⇒ digging new wells to access supplies of ground water



Longest River on each continent (Nile is the longest in the world)



<b>drought</b>	a period of time when an area or region experiences below-normal precipitation
<b>meander</b>	a curve/bend of a river
<b>estuary/ river mouth</b>	where river meets the sea
<b>stream</b>	a smaller body of water
<b>tributary</b>	smaller rivers or streams flowing into a bigger one
<b>source</b>	where a river originates
<b>drainage basin</b>	A river basin is an area of land drained by a river and its tributaries.

