

Where Water Comes From

Water in our homes originates in nature.

Discussion

Key Idea: Water in our homes originates in nature.

Question: In what ways do you use water in your home?

Answers: Shower, toilet, dishes, drinking

Question: Where and when do you see water outside?

Answers: Everything in New York City is surrounded by water – rivers, ponds, bays, as well as rain and snow.

Question: What are the differences between outdoor and indoor water sources?

Answers: Students should point out that although water indoors is brought in by man-made means, the water source was originally out of doors (precipitation, lakes, streams, etc.).

Question: Where does the water in your home come from and how does it get to your home?

Answers: From reservoirs, pipes, lakes, streams, wells

Question: What happens to all the rain and snow? Where does it go after it falls or melts?

Answers: The water goes into larger bodies of water like rivers, canals and the bay; under the ground; into drainage pipes; into larger bodies of water; etc.

Misconception

Many students believe that water originates from pipes or the faucet, when it most immediately originates from natural sources like reservoirs, wells, or springs.