# Year 6 Science: Earth's fresh water: ice, lakes, rivers and groundwater

Name: _____ Date: _____

Try these without your notes first, then check the answer key.

## Practice

1. If all of Earth's water was 1000 mL, how much would be fresh water?

2. Which store holds the most fresh water?

3. What is an aquifer?

4. Where does Christchurch get its tap water from?

5. In a 100-square grid of Earth's fresh water only, about how many squares would groundwater get?

## Fix the mistake

6. Correct this statement: "Most fresh water is in lakes and rivers."

7. Correct this statement: "Groundwater is an underground lake or river."

8. Correct this statement: "With 2.5% fresh water, people can use 2.5% of all Earth's water."

## Answer key (for parents and tutors)

1. If all of Earth's water was 1000 mL, how much would be fresh water?
   **2.5% of 1000 mL is 25 mL.**
2. Which store holds the most fresh water?
   **Ice caps, glaciers and permanent snow, with 68.7% of it.**
3. What is an aquifer?
   **A layer of rock or gravel that holds groundwater and lets it flow through.**
4. Where does Christchurch get its tap water from?
   **From aquifers deep under the Canterbury Plains.**
5. In a 100-square grid of Earth's fresh water only, about how many squares would groundwater get?
   **Groundwater is 30.1% of fresh water, so about 30 squares.**
6. Correct this statement: "Most fresh water is in lakes and rivers."
   **Most fresh water is frozen as ice, and most of the rest is groundwater; lakes and rivers hold well under 1% of it.**
7. Correct this statement: "Groundwater is an underground lake or river."
   **Most groundwater fills the tiny gaps between grains of soil and gravel and the cracks in rock, like water in a sponge.**
8. Correct this statement: "With 2.5% fresh water, people can use 2.5% of all Earth's water."
   **Most of that 2.5% is locked in ice far away, so the fresh water people can easily reach is far smaller.**