

Name: _____ Date: _____

The activity questions are shown below in order .

Using fresh water

Will there be enough fresh water?

1: What are the annual renewable water resources where you live?

2: What is fresh water used for? In your daily life, how do you use water?

3: The first map shows that people in the United States use approximately three times as much water as people in China (2500-3000 cubic meters/year/person vs. 1000-1200 cubic meters/year/person). Using the data from the second map, which country has the greater fresh water resources per person?

4: What might be some consequences of having fewer water resources per person?

5: Based on the table, which do you think is larger – your direct water use or your indirect water use?

6: Explain how you determined which water use was larger.

7: Municipal supply includes the water that is delivered to peoples' homes and businesses. Why did municipal supply usage increase between 1950 and 2000?

8: The agricultural and industrial sectors use the majority of fresh water. How have the increases in agricultural and industrial use been beneficial?

9: You may have noticed that there is an increase in reservoir water usage. This is not a mistake! During this time period, many dams were built on rivers, increasing the number and size of reservoirs. How could the reservoirs lose water?

10: The graph shows that the population of the United States continued to increase after 1980, but water withdrawals did not increase as much. Why do you think the water usage didn't increase even as the population grew?

11: Overall, do you think that the benefits of dams (flood control, consistent water supply, recreational opportunities, and electricity production) outweigh the costs of dams (displacement of people from their homes, disruption of river habitat, and costs of construction and maintenance)?