

## **Water And The Environment: How Do They Coexist?**

She is of the sea

Wild and unpredictable

Energy in constant motion

Dance partner to the moon

She is a mystery, found everywhere

She is water...

She is an untamed sea by John Green- Edited by D' Asia Russell

John Green highlights many aspects of this fundamental asset of life. Water's energy and existence is essential to us here on earth. Water is the lifeblood of Mother Nature and is a colorless, transparent, odorless and tasteless liquid that forms the seas, lakes, rivers and rain as noted by New York University. Dictionary.com defines the environment as the surroundings or conditions in which a person, plant or animal lives. These two variables do not live in isolation, but must work in tandem to ensure the longevity, permanency and sustainability of life.

Firstly, water is constantly being recycled. Water can be absorbed by the roots of plant, but some will return to the environment by transpiration ("plant sweating") or as a by-product of photosynthesis, never will it be wasted. It returns to the environment

via the hydrological (water) cycle. This cycle shows how water is used by life on earth and then returned to that atmosphere in a repetitious cycle. This cycle is very important to all living things and it crucial that none of the processes are disrupted.

Additionally, water has many properties to ensure that it helps living things. Have you ever wondered how water can flow up a tree defying gravity? This is because of waters ability to climb up narrow tubes via capillarity. What about the fact that a pond never becomes frozen entirely, but only the top? The water at the very top of the lake is in direct contact with the cold air, so it freezes first. Ice is actually lighter than liquid water, so this causes the water at the top to freeze and allows the water below to remain as a liquid. Imagine if this did not happen? All of the life below would die! Water is simply amazing!

Ultimately, water and the environment are like best friends. They don't work alone, but as a team to ensure that all living things are able to survive. We see this relationship through the water cycle and by its many properties that help to sustain life. The relationship between these two remain endless and should never be taken for granted. Can you fathom a world without water? I cannot, thus, let's do our best to save it because **water is life!**