

## **SDG 14: Life Below Water**

*High School (9-12)*

Description: This lesson helps students understand why Earth is considered the “water planet.” Students analyze how much of Earth’s water is available for humans to use for life-sustaining purposes, and they explore the concept of water scarcity in both physical and economic terms. They look at the many ways that humans use water and investigate international trends in agricultural, industrial, and household water consumption. The lesson also sets up the focus of this course: the concept of water footprints. Students explore how water footprints are an invaluable tool for identifying patterns of water use so that individuals, businesses, and even nations can more effectively manage their use of one of the most precious resources on Earth: water. Critical to this exploration is a visit to [watercalculator.org](https://watercalculator.org), where students calculate their personal water usage, analyze the results, and set a base point for tracking and conserving their water use. (description from the Water Calculator Organization)

Lesson Plan:

[https://watercalculator.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/05/WF\\_HS\\_L1-Lesson-Plan.pdf](https://watercalculator.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/05/WF_HS_L1-Lesson-Plan.pdf)

Highlights:

- This unit is split into three lessons:
  - Understanding water issues
  - The water footprint
  - Call to action

*Miscellaneous Resources Related to SDG 14:*

- <https://www.ioes.ucla.edu/wp-content/uploads/2022/07/Habitat-Restoration-Lesson-Plan.pdf>
  - Great high school focused lesson about habitat loss and restoration, using the Exxon Valdez oil spill as a focusing event (grades 9-12)
- <https://www.blueoceansociety.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/Hooksett-Disk-1.pdf>
  - Lesson on water pollution, could be adapted from NH water sources (grades 6-8)

