

Investigation 1: The Properties of Seawater

This investigation will help you to:

- Learn more about the composition of seawater.
- Learn more about why is the ocean salty.
- Learn more about the density of seawater.
- Learn more about plants and animals in the ocean.

To learn more about the composition of seawater, visit the following web sites:

Seawater Chemistry, **University of Saskatchewan**

Page includes description of the chemical elements in seawater, the dissolved gasses in seawater, and the processes controlling seawater composition.

Seawater Composition, **Seafriends**

View a detailed breakdown of the percentages of all major and minor elements in seawater.

To learn more about why is the ocean salty, visit the following web sites:

General Characteristics of the World's Oceans-Ocean Salinity, **Institute on Climate and Planet, NASA**

Where is ocean salinity the highest? This page includes map of ocean salinity around the world and a cross section of ocean salinity versus depth.

Why is the Ocean Salty?, **USGS**

A brief explanation about Earth's salty oceans.

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Why is the Ocean Salty?, **USGS**

Discusses the origins of the oceans, sources of salt, and how the saltiness in the oceans has changed over time.

To learn more about the density of seawater, visit the following web sites:

Density of Ocean Water, **University of Michigan**

Discusses variables associated with sea water density.

Density of Seawater, **George Mason University**

Includes scientific equations for determining seawater density.

To learn more about plants and animals in the ocean, visit the following web sites:

The Living Sea, **Oceans Alive!**

Read about where animals and plants live within different layers of the oceans.

Planet Ocean, **Discovery**

Information geared for students about the vast oceans and the life in them.

Ocean Animals, **Missouri Botanical Gardens**

Learn about animals that inhabit the ocean.
