

Why is Ocean Salty?

97% of the earth's water is in the oceans. So why not use it for drinking? The water in the ocean is salty (saline) in nature and hence has only limited practical use for us. Why is it salty? The answer is very simple. Ocean got its salt from the rocks in land. The rain that falls on land is slightly acidic in nature due to dissolved gases like carbon dioxide. This rainwater erodes the rocks on earth and carry these dissolved chemicals through the rivers and eventually to the oceans. This process has been going on for thousands of years. With time, the concentration of salts keeps increasing due to repeated evaporation and dumping of salts by rivers.



Next Fact >>

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