

How are fresh water resources cleaned?

Read the text and look for answers to complete your activity.

The water that flows to houses and businesses in your community is *treated* or cleaned in a water treatment plant. There, fresh water from a lake or reservoir runs through several tanks. In each tank, a different step takes place. The steps may vary depending on the quality of the source of water.

First, sticky particles are added to the water to attract any dirt in it. This step is called *coagulation*. In the next tank, *sedimentation* takes place. This is when the heavy clumps of dirt and sticky particles fall to the bottom of the tank. Then, the water passes through

a series of filters, which are layers of sand, gravel, and charcoal. These filters remove any remaining bits of soil or other particles. After water leaves this tank, chemicals such as chlorine are added to the water to kill harmful bacteria. This step is called *disinfection*. Finally, the clean water is stored in a tank or storage area before it flows to the community.

1. From where does water flow to houses and businesses?

- water plant
- treated or cleaned in water plant
- from rivers and lakes

2. From where does fresh water come to the tanks?

- Oceans, lakes
- Lakes, rivers
- lake or reservoir

3. The steps vary depending on...?

- treatments
- quality of the source of water
- quality of tanks

4. What is coagulation?

- the sticky particles added to the water to attract any dirt in it.
- the step that cleans water from mosquito.

5. When does sedimentation take place?

6. Which are the names of the series of filters?

7. What do the filters remove?

8. What is the name of the chemical added to the water to kill bacteria?