

WHAT IS AN ESTUARY?

Match the type of water to its description. Unscramble first!



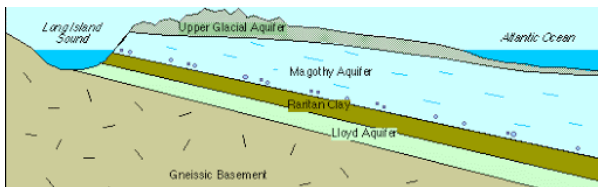
1. OCEAN

I am a vast and large body of salty water covering about 70 percent of the total earth's surface. Large marine life like whales swim in my water. The deepest part of me is almost 7 miles deep! I crash into beaches that I reach and can make a surfer's day!



3. RIVER

I am a stream of freshwater that carries nutrients, channeling through the land and emptying into another body of water.



credit:columbia.edu

5. GROUNDWATER

I am the water held under the soil. I live in an aquifer and get recharged by the rain. I provide the only source of drinking water on Long Island. I also travel to the bays and ocean. Unfortunately pollutants on land can seep into the ground and mix with me.



credit:USGS

2. ESTUARY

I am a body of water that is semi enclosed by land but is freely connected to the ocean. I have a brackish water environment – the mixing of fresh water from the land brought by rivers and groundwater with the saltwater brought by the ocean. Because of my protected waters and variable types of salinity, I have lots of different types of animals and plants that call me home, and more than 75% of marine life come to visit me to find food or a place to spawn. I am considered one of the most productive places on earth!



4. STORMWATER

I am a type of surface water that flows over land carrying anything in my path to storm drains, the bay, and the sea. I can absorb into grass recharging the aquifer or rush over pavement.

WORD BANK

SRYEUTA

VIERR

TMOSRWTAER

EOACN

ONURDTAGWER