



Instructions: All of us rely on underground water for our everyday needs. Groundwater is the largest single source of freshwater on our planet. By doing this activity, you will become much more familiar with where groundwater comes from and realize how important it is in our lives. Use what you know and the Digital Atlas to complete the following worksheet.

Part A:

1. What is groundwater?
2. Approximately what percentage of usable water comes from groundwater?
3. What is a geothermal spring? How can humans use a geothermal spring?
4. Why are aquifers so important to people, what do we use these aquifers for?
5. What is Idaho's water consumption per person compared to other states?
6. What is the residence time for water in the Snake River Plain aquifer?
7. What has been happening to the water level in this aquifer for the past few decades? How have humans influenced this aquifer?

Part B: Use the following in a sentence; make sure the sentence reflects the meaning of the word.

Permeability-

Porous-

Residence Time-

Aquifer-