

Czech Republic_Jílková**WHAT IS WATER FOR ME?**

There are many important things on the Earth that are indispensable for life. Definitely, one of these important parts of our life is water. Most people on the planet take it as a common thing, and that is why we do not handle with the water as it deserves.

Let's imagine if water could express its feelings and tell us how important it is to us, so we would certainly start to appreciate it a little. But unfortunately, it cannot, and so we are misusing it. Furthermore, our planet is threatened by a lack of it, which can lead to the loss of our whole beautiful planet. We should realize that no building would be built without good foundations and the same happens to water. Life arose from the water and it could end without it. The only difference is that we own the house foundations but we do not own the water.

Every year, the amount of water changes sharply due to the global warming, which is caused by greenhouse gases, making the climate hot and dry. In some countries such as Africa, drought is a constant problem and it has always been, but today this problem occurs in more and more countries that have always had enough water. And why? We started to use water for almost everything as well as for things that are not so important to us and you could live without them. Over time, human technology is getting developed, and humans became selfish. They forgot about plants and animals that cannot live without water. Moreover, people began to misuse water for production of textiles, raw materials, energy and a lot of other things.

We should realize what is more important for life. But why is it so complicated? Look at seaside states where water with marine animals is a means of subsistence because their economy is dependent on sold fish. Fishermen in these countries are moving increasingly and more often into dangerous places to catch enough fish. What happens to these states when water is constantly getting deficient?

When we return from the coastal states to the Czech Republic, where we have meanwhile enough water. Drinking water is obtained from groundwater or surface water. It is true that water consumption in households in the Czech Republic has been declining in the past. It was caused mainly due to rising water prices and more economical appliances. On the other hand, water consumption has started to increase over time. Why? One reason is that more and more people are using these water supplies. Water supplies in the Czech Republic are dependent only on atmospheric precipitation. That is why in the Czech Republic there is approximately half amount of water per one inhabitant in comparison with the EU countries.

Recently, water in the Czech Republic has been declining sharply and two thirds of the territory were endangered. And how will this situation continue? It is a matter of time. Each family in the Czech Republic consumes 40 percent of water in the bathroom. On the other hand, people in Africa and Asia walk several kilometres a day for drinking

water they need for more important things. If every human in the Czech Republic had a shower for shorter time, lots of litters of water would be saved.

The problem with the lack of water is becoming urgent. Last year, it was the biggest drought on the Earth. Farmers had less crops and less materials were produced. What could happen in a few years? The Earth will be without water and everything will start to die - animals, plants and humans.

The Earth will become deserted and uninhabitable like other planets. This problem is serious but so far solvable. So why do not we do anything about it? What are we waiting for? Every- one of us can take a step forward. We all influence society and we all can solve this problem. And so let's think about what we can do for water to be able to stay here with us.

Czech Republic_Karolína Soukupová

What Is Water for Me?

For many people water is just a normal thing that appears in their lives, it flows around and in us, living its own life in a cycle of living. It consists of 2 molecules of hydrogen and 1 molecule of oxygen, just a common thing. But it is not as it looks like. Water also consists of stories. Stories of dead people, animals, our mother Earth and even a universe. Every single droplet of water was once in its lifetime only a small thing in an asteroid, that decided to fall into our evolving earth. It can tell millions of stories, billions of years in every single stain.

For me and for the Earth, water is a really important thing. Without it there wouldn't be any life, warm shower washes away my problems and which allows me to relax in its warm arms. It cleans my body, satisfies my thirst and allows me to listen to its song, when it flows in the river under my feet, singing a song about life while calmly tiding over stones. It is a calm beast with endless patience modulating nature to its own image. If it could speak, it would have the kindest voice of a grandma, who has seen a lot of things in her life, who has been through a lot, but still remains the same. But after all, it still can be really dangerous, it has infinite power and can destroy everything in its way, when it decides to strike.

Water is a healer, a creator of life, a wolf in a sheep skin, a dangerous beast with might of killing. We don't really realize its worth and strength, but one day, it will lose its patience and it will show us the real power. Until then, it will just calmly flow watching our small lives, floating around, while thousands of years are passing away.

I appreciate water, I try to listen to it, let it tell me its story. Not many people do it, but we should. We should protect it, praise it, keep it clean, let it live its life and change our behaviour. Because nobody's patience is endless and we will pay, when the time comes. One day the water will slowly disappear leaving us behind with no chance of surviving.

It is the heart of everything. And we should keep the heart healthy.

Czech Republic_Jana Bílková

There Is No Life Without Water

We live on the planet Earth, which is 70% covered by water. 62% of our bodies are created by it.. And we are still destroying our environment, nature, forests and oceans as if we were the last generation that would ever live here. Why?

In the Czech Republic we have one idiom which can describe this sufficiently: after us the flood comes. It refers to a myth from Christian religion about the God and his son Noah. God was angry at the corrupt world and gave Noah the task - he must build a very large ship and with its help save himself, seven other people and one pair (females and males) of all kinds of animals that lived on Earth. Everyone and everything else should be destroyed by the Flood.

Well, that would be a bit drastic. But try to think about it. We - humanity - are such ungrateful children of nature. Why should we be anything more than nature that we grew out of? We use all of it - and without any limits.

Do you know anything about biodiversity? It means variety of life - variety of flora and fauna. We are reducing it. The plants begin to resemble each other. So many species of animals are extinct.

Another environmental problem - global warming. It's a topic that makes many tenses in our society. Someone says it is just a stupid construct of the world leaders, who wants our money, someone says it doesn't even exist and someone says just: 'yeah, fine, I'd like to have all summers sunny and hot and we will have the sea again, haha!'. Well... no.

If our planet becomes warmer, it means melting of glaciers. By simple logic it sounds like more water for thirsty children of Earth, but for real, it means a disaster. Death for many creatures like polar bears and many other. Surface of sea will rise by six meters and for some areas it would mean endless sleep on the ocean bed. For example, the Netherlands will be flooded by a big part; some islands in oceans will be erased from maps. The Gulf Stream would slow down or absolutely stopped, and it could cause little ice age. And it isn't all - but just in one essay isn't enough space to describe all of the impacts of it.

Most environmental disasters have one reason - us. Humanity. We change our living space in ways that had not even been done by animal species before us. Where is the border? The border that we can't see but when we overstep it, all changes will become irreversible. It's closer than we think.

We should be more careful about our next steps and take more care of nature. To protect animals, plants, forrests, water... Andy Weir in his bestseller Project Hail Mary considers the possibility of life without water, without the life-giving connection of hydrogen and carbon. Somewhere in space, it could be possible. The same mechanism, another variables. But we are thinking about probability somewhere in another galaxy around another system

around a star. In our Solar system, the only variant of life is life based on dihydrogen monoxide. And that's the reason why we should protect water at all cost.

Czech Republic_Aнна Součková

Water doesn't know any borders

To write an essay about water can seem like a hard task, but I don't think it will be hard. Because water is a nature miracle with a big M.

Water is one of four nature elements and it is absolutely indispensable. Have you ever thought about how it would look like if there wasn't any water? There would be nothing, also for our body, which is made mostly of water. There wouldn't be any living creatures or plants. When I am thinking about this I have an idea that water is everywhere around us, because water is in everything.

Let's go back to the title of this essay "water doesn't know any border", each of us imagines something different in this. Someone thinks about water like disasters – floods, avalanches, snowstorms, tsunamis, someone thinks about water like a fantastic thing, because if you look at its physical aspect, water is above all other materials. Water hasn't got lower density in its solidification, but other materials have higher density in their solidifications, but I'm sure you know this. Water's solid form has more forms – snow, ice, hailstones. Isn't that strange? Stiffening point of water is 0° C, but the largest density is in 4°C. Isn't it a sufficient proof that water doesn't know any borders?

Water is everywhere, do you know any place on the Earth where water isn't? If you think that you have found it, you mustn't forget the air humidity. Do you still doubt that water doesn't know any borders?

Water is something unreal from a physical view for me, I love snow and ice, but water in a swimming pool isn't my good friend, because I'm not a good swimmer and I'm afraid of depth. Now I remember when I don't like snow...if our horses get away, because snow is distilled water and is an isolation. And at that point the electrical fence is useless for us.

I am sure I have given you a lot of reasons for thinking about it. Water doesn't know any borders and I think that is OK and we shouldn't set borders to it, because nature has its head and it doesn't respect our requirements.

Czech Republic_Kateřina Nová

Water Has No Boundaries

Have you ever stopped to think about how beautiful but dangerous water can be at the same time? What can it do? How powerful can it be? Everybody has a different point of view, but I can try to describe mine.

Do you know the early summer mornings when there is a little bit of sunlight and it is a dew on the grass? It looks to me like thousands of diamonds dropped in the grass. It is so beautiful way it shines. What is not beautiful for me,

is a very strong rain. It is cloudy and dark. We cannot go outside, it is good weather just for lying in bed and watching movies. Maybe the sound of the rain can be relaxing for someone, but I do not like the rain at all.

What I want to say is that water can do whatever it wants and there is nothing here to stop it. I definitely did not mention everything, there is much more than a dew or a strong rain, for example waterfalls or rainbows. My point was to show you that nature is devious and water too. 😊

Czech Republic_Áda Krmelů

WHAT WOULD LIFE BE LIKE WITHOUT WATER?

Life without water, can you even imagine it? The world could not exist like that, there would be no life, only dry land and rocks. And yet, many people nowadays are acting, like this scenario can never happen! We all keep wasting water, when we have a shower, do the dishes, clean our car, fill our swimming pool or brush our teeth every single day. The water seems infinite, because you can have it whenever you like and it is far only reach of a hand. But the truth is, there is not enough water even for us now, not mentioning our future children!

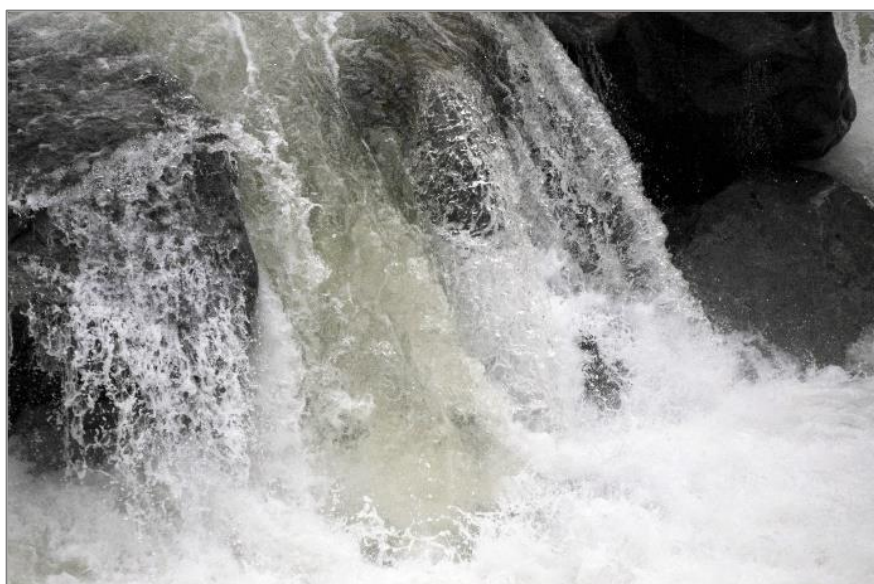
I am not naive enough to think, that people will magically stop wasting water, because they will discover the horrible truth, no. The one thing I would like to see change in, is attitude of us all. Let's think about water, like it is something really special, because it really is by the way.

Every time I pour myself a cup of water I try not to waste a single drop. It may sound weird, but I see it as a good thing to do, it helps to remind me, that not only I need water. There are plenty of living organisms on the Earth needing water and I do not see a problem sharing it with them. Can you imagine how people would look, without a single teardrop of water? We would be dehydrated meat glued on bones, something like dog chewing a toy. Therefore, I beg you once more, please, do not waste water.

Madeira_Name: Rodrigo Andrade

Water Knows No Boundaries

WATER is life. It is one of the most precious and important resources that sustains life. The Planet Earth is made lively, green and happy because of water. The old saying "no water, no life", in fact, is true. Without water there cannot be life on this planet. Our planet Earth is luckily blessed with abundance



of water. Around 71% of earth is covered with water. Water is the primary source of life on which every creature depends.

Water knows no boundaries. Though we may draw it on a map, say this is where the water starts and where it ends, it is not true. Water knows the way into the Great Mystery. It is not afraid of going underground. Water is not afraid of dams or dry creeks, bridges or brick walls. It is patient. Water understands time. It will find a way.

Madeira

It can be easy to take water for granted. When water infrastructure is working well, we expect clean water to flow from our taps, sewage to be treated out of sight, and heavy rain to drain from our streets and away from our homes.



Our expectations of water infrastructure are starting to change due to a confluence of two factors: firstly, infrastructure constructed more than a hundred years ago is showing signs of age at a time when the true scale of the challenges presented by climate change are being realized. Secondly, demand for water is also increasing.

We must plan for the need for ongoing investment in water infrastructure. While considerable uncertainty surrounds the exact extent and timing of sea level rise impacts and flooding from future storms, the question is not if but when. Some of the individuals municipal budget are stretched, so cities must collaborate across jurisdictions and agencies. Traditionally, infrastructure projects have been funded by raising taxes or through insurance premiums, and utility fees. These sources are insufficient given the scale of investment needed. Talking about the co-operation across administrative borders the municipal agencies have traditionally operated with siloed budgets with narrow performance indicators. They rarely have the mandate to work across agencies to solve present and looming challenges. Even when there are technical solutions to known water infrastructure challenges, financing can still be a challenge.

This matter is really serious and demands the world's attention, it cannot be postponed.



Madeira

Words that are so common today that we don't even realize their importance in our lives. But that can change. We believe that, with this message, we can lead all of you to a fully understanding of the current situation and the subject: *"water"*.

The first reason to be pointed out in this text is the fact that **water isn't eternal**. It is limited, therefore **precious**. There are so many children who live without worries, without having to think about whether there will be water tomorrow or not. What about the others? Those who have to worry, who don't go to school because they need to find water, who die because they can't find it. Unfortunately, it takes more than two full hands to count the children killed each day due to a **lack of drinking water**. How can we close our eyes to this? How can we say that there is nothing important when talking about water?

So, for those who have this **liquid that sustains life**, remember: **You need water to live**: and that is the most basic reason that shows how significant water is.

In fact, it is common to devalue the things that we are sure that we will have tomorrow. And that's what happens to the water. Have you ever asked yourself **how the planet would be like without water**?

There is one thing that all the people, around the world, care about: health. But, why is water related to health? **Water** brings many benefits to us like: it **regulates the body temperature; fights acne, prevents stretch marks and cellulite; improves kidney function and prevents kidney stones, etc....** Of course there are many other benefits. But these are enough to show how important water is to our health.

In addition, we also want to show the importance of water in other aspects of our lives: **beaches**. Of course beaches are a form of pleasure that must be valued.

On our planet, unfortunately, it's common to see **trash in the ocean**. But we should not get used to it. Have you ever thought how that can **be mean to the fish and all the living beings** that live in the ocean? The ocean that is full of trash?

Once, a wise man said: whatever others do to you, do also to them. So treat those living beings as humans, don't destroy their habitat. They make our lives better and then we can use beaches freely and without worries.

A drop, a litter, a gallon, a river, a sea, an ocean. Now you understand. Now you see. Now you think from another perspective.

So do a favor to me, to you and to the world. **Ask yourself: "What is water for me?"** Think of the reasons given in this text. **Cherish water**. And do your best **not to waste it** so that the next generations can also discover this **wonderful gift found on Earth**.