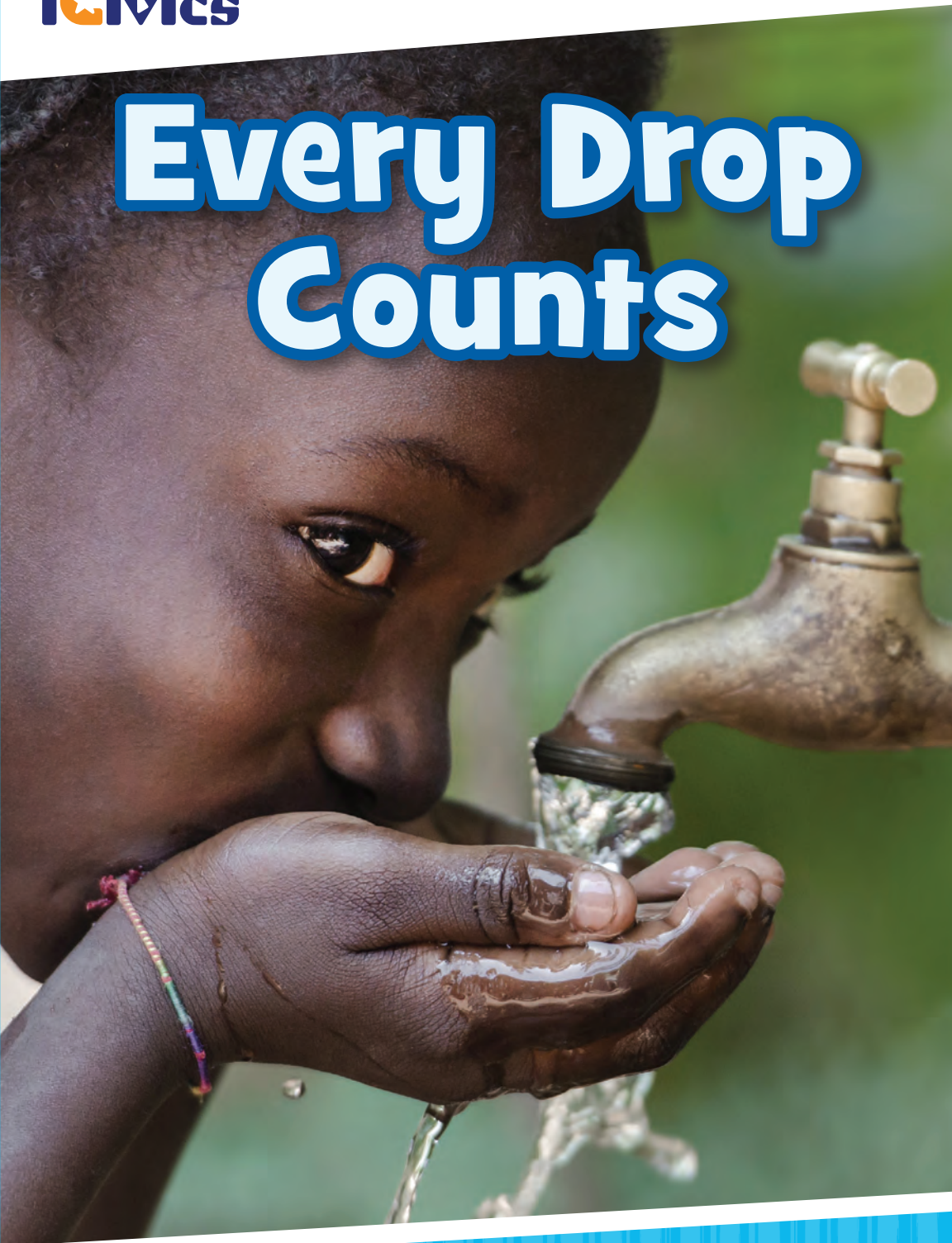


Every Drop Counts



Anita Nahta Amin

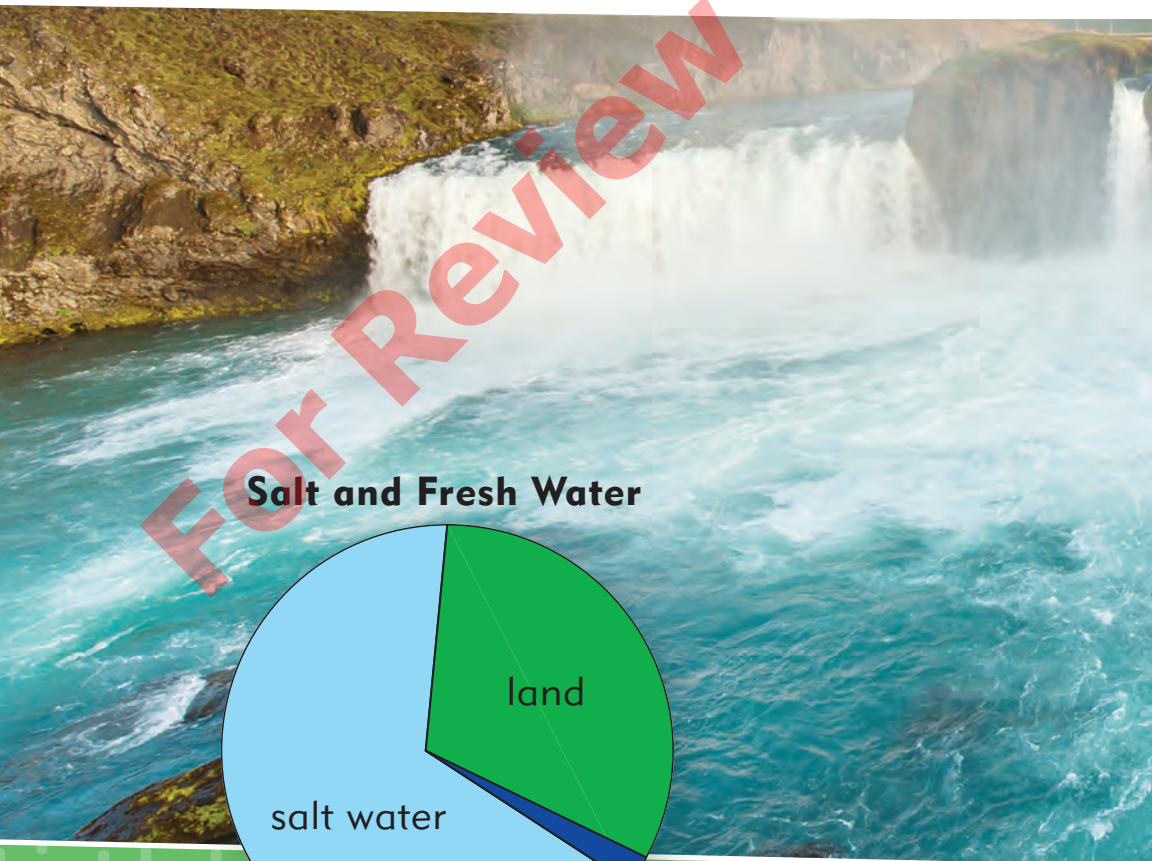
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The Last Drop

It may seem as if water will never run out. It covers more than two-thirds of Earth. But most of that water is salty. It is not **fresh water**. Fresh water is what we use to drink, wash clothes, bathe, and water the lawn.



For every one hundred drops of water on Earth, only three are fresh. This means a small amount of all the world's water is safe to drink. Some places have more fresh water than others.

But what if there is no more water to use? Many people are facing this problem now. And many more might face it later.



Jump into
Fiction



A River Runs Dry

Tina's plants are droopy. She is not happy. She had imagined a lush garden.

Mom sighs, "We need rain."

Back inside, Dad waves a newspaper. "Crystal River is drying up! We have to save water."

"But my plants!" Tina cries.



“Our town could become a desert,” Mom says.

Tina starts to make changes. She turns off the tap while brushing her teeth. She shortens her showers. She uses leftover cooking water for her plants.

“Every drop counts!” Mom says. Her plants perk up with pasta water.





A week later, Dad reads the front page of the newspaper. "The river is still shrinking. Keep saving water."

Tina runs outside. "Mr. Sand, please don't water your lawn!" She makes flyers to remind every neighbor.



A week later, the newspaper praises Tina's flyer. It says that she is helping to save Crystal River!

Tina beams. Then, she feels a drop on her face. "Look! It's raining!" Tina takes a pail outside to catch rainwater. The river is safe for now. But she isn't taking chances with the future!



Back to
Nonfiction

Every Drop Counts

Water seems to be everywhere. Yet the world is running out of fresh water. How does this affect lives around the world? What is being done?

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