section

Ocean Water

as you read

What You'll Learn

- Identify the origin of the water in Earth's oceans.
- Explain how dissolved salts and other substances get into seawater.
- Describe the composition of seawater.

Why It's Important

Oceans are a reservoir of valuable food, energy, and mineral resources.

Review Vocabulary

resource: a reserve source of supply, such as a material or mineral

New Vocabulary

- basin
- salinity

Figure 1 People depend on the oceans for many resources.

Importance of Oceans

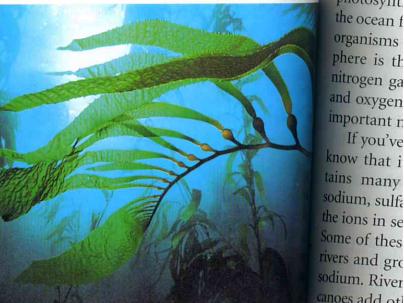
Imagine yourself lying on a beach and listening to the wave gently roll onto shore. A warm breeze blows off the water, make ing it seem as if you're in a tropical paradise. It's easy to appre ciate the oceans under these circumstances, but the oceans affer your life in other ways, too.

Varied Resources Oceans are important sources of fool energy, and minerals. Figure 1 shows two examples of for resources collected from oceans. Energy sources such as oil at natural gas are found beneath the ocean floor. Oil wells often drilled in shallow water. Mineral resources including copp and gold are mined in shallow waters as well. Approximate one-third of the world's table salt is extracted from seawar through the process of evaporation. Oceans also allow for efficient transportation of goods. For example, millions of the of oil, coal, and grains are shipped over the oceans each year.

Reading Check What resources come from oceans?



Krill are tiny, shrimplike animals that live in the Antarctic Ocean. Some cultures use krill in noodles and rice cakes.



Kelp is a fast-growing seaweed that is a source of alo in making ice cream, salad dressing, medicines, and canoes add oti Reading C

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