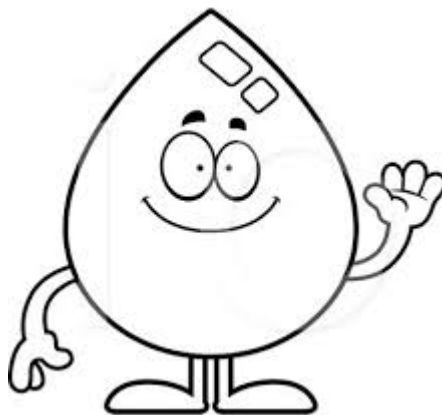


# **Part 5**

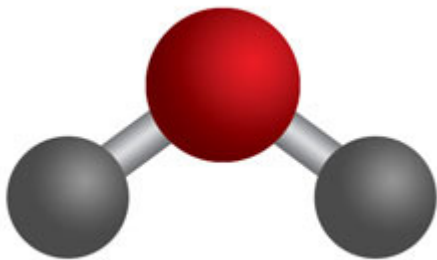
# **Water**



Pour yourself a glass of **water** and you could be drinking some of the same molecules that passed through the lips of Joan of Arc, Martin Luther King, or Moses. Indeed, since the human body is about 60 percent water you might even be drinking a tiny part of one of those people! Water is one of the most amazing things about Earth; without it, there would be no life and our planet would be a completely different place. One of the truly amazing things about water is that it's never used up: it's just recycled over and over again, constantly moving between the plants, animals, rivers, and seas on Earth's surface and the atmosphere up above.



### What is water?



A water molecule

Chemically speaking, water is a liquid substance made of **molecules**—a single, large drop of water weighing 0.1g contains about 3 billion trillion (3,000,000,000,000,000,000,000) of them! Each molecule of water is made up of three atoms: two hydrogen atoms locked in a sort of triangle with one oxygen atom—giving us the famous chemical formula  $H_2O$ .

### Why can insects walk on water?

You've probably seen insects that can walk on water. They're supported by a kind of invisible "structure" on the surface known as **surface tension**. It happens because water molecules attract very strongly to one another.

