



THE GLOBE PROGRAM

A worldwide science and education program



Hydrosphere ● **Dissolved Oxygen Protocol**





Overview

This module:

- Reviews the selection of a GLOBE hydrology site
- Reviews the water sampling technique used in GLOBE hydrology protocols
- Provides a step by step introduction of the protocol method

Learning Objectives

After completing this module, you will be able to:

- Define dissolved oxygen and explain how changing environmental conditions result in different measurements
- Describe the importance of instrument calibration in the collection of accurate data
- Conduct dissolved oxygen measurements using a test kit or a probe
- Upload data to the GLOBE portal
- Visualize data using GLOBE's Visualization System

Estimated time to complete module: 1.5 hours

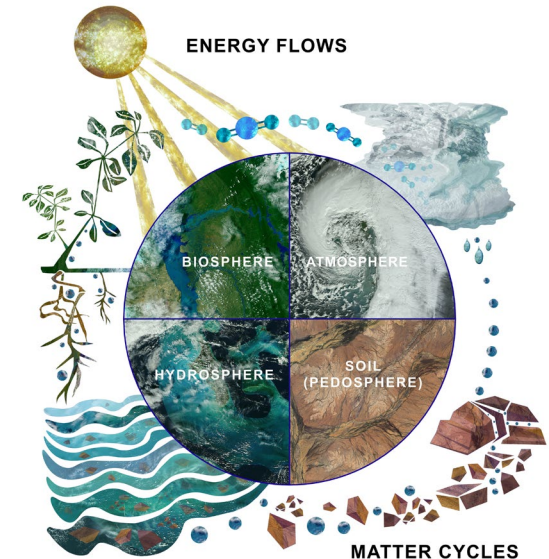
- A. What is dissolved oxygen?
- B. Why collect DO data?
- C. How your measurements can help
- D. How to collect your data.
- E. Entering data on GLOBE Website.
- F. Understand the data.
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The Hydrosphere

The hydrosphere is the part of the Earth system that includes water, ice and water vapor. Water participates in many important natural chemical reactions and is a good solvent. Changing any part of the Earth system, such as the amount or type of vegetation in a region or from natural land cover to an impervious one, can affect the rest of the system. Rain and snow capture aerosols from the air. Acidic water slowly dissolves rocks, placing dissolved solids in water. Dissolved or suspended impurities determine water's chemical composition.

Current measurement programs in many areas of the world cover only a few water bodies a few times during the year. GLOBE Hydrosphere protocols will allow you to collect valuable data to help fill these gaps and improve our understanding of Earth's natural waters.



The Earth System: Energy flows and matter cycles.



What is Dissolved Oxygen (DO)?

Dissolved oxygen (DO) is one of 10 measurements used by GLOBE to describe the characteristics of a water body. It measures the amount of molecular oxygen (O_2) in the water. It does not measure the amount of oxygen in the water molecule (H_2O).

We call the amount of dissolved oxygen the water will hold (under specific conditions) the solubility of dissolved oxygen. Factors affecting the solubility of dissolved oxygen include water temperature, atmospheric pressure, and salinity. Colder water can dissolve more oxygen than warmer water. Water at higher elevations holds less dissolved oxygen since the atmospheric pressure is less.

GLOBE Hydrosphere Measurements

Hydrosphere Study Site

Water Temperature

Water Transparency

Conductivity

pH

Mosquito Larvae

Alkalinity

Dissolved Oxygen

Salinity

Nitrates

Freshwater Macroinvertebrates

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What to know about DO!

Dissolved oxygen (O_2) in water is measured in parts per million (ppm). The amount of O_2 in water is much less than in air. Roughly, two out of ten air molecules are molecular oxygen. In water, however, there are only five or six oxygen molecules for every million water molecules.

Dissolved oxygen can be added to water by plants during photosynthesis, through diffusion from the atmosphere, or by aeration. Aeration occurs when water is mixed with air. Such mixing occurs in waves, riffles, and waterfalls.

Dissolved oxygen can be consumed during respiration of biota (e.g., animals and bacteria). Many fish species require at least 5 ppm to survive and reproduce.

Hypoxia is a condition when there is less than 2 ppm of DO in the water. Anoxia is when there is little to no DO in the water.

A. What is dissolved oxygen?

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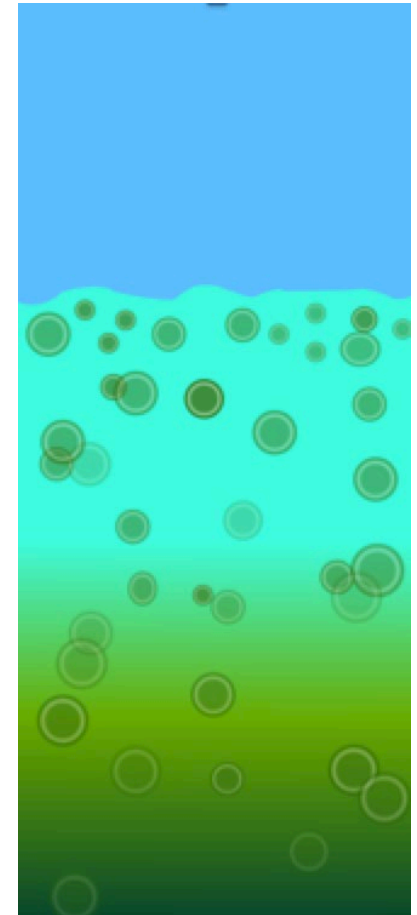


Why Collect Water DO Data?

Just like animals that live on land, animals that live in water need molecular oxygen to breathe.

Most organic matter in aquatic ecosystems is non-living and it is collectively referred to as detritus. The organic matter can be produced *in situ* or enter water bodies from the surrounding land (from both natural and human sources). The cycling of organic carbon between living and nonliving components is known as the carbon cycle. Organic matter is produced during photosynthesis and is consumed during respiration. During respiration, biota (fish, bacteria, etc.) consume dissolved oxygen.

Although plants and algae add valuable oxygen to the water, overgrowth can potentially lead to reduced light levels in the water body. As plants and algae die and decay, bacteria multiply and use the dissolved oxygen in the water. The amount of available dissolved oxygen in the water may become very low and harm fish and other aquatic animals.



Conceptual Diagram: Eutrophic water column with microscopic algae enlarged for emphasis.

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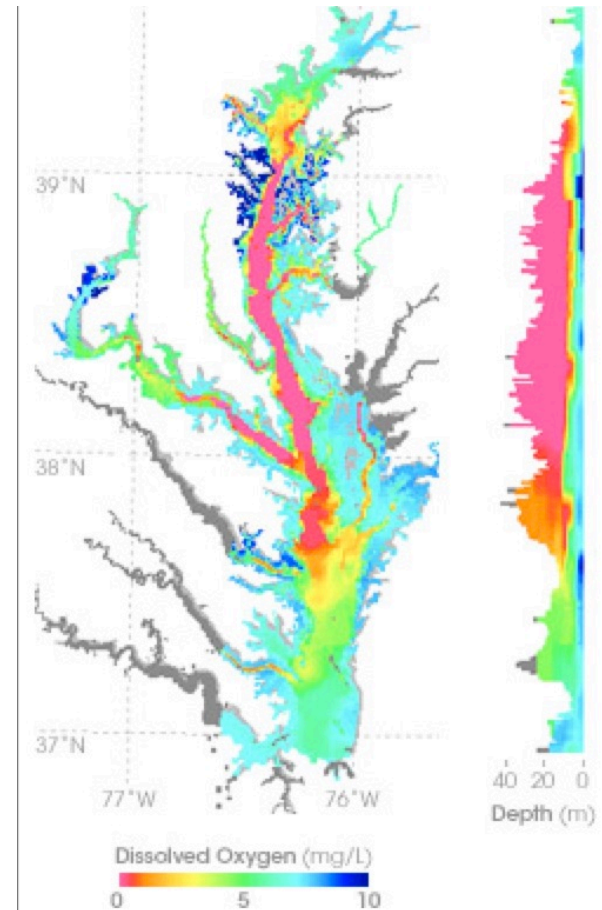
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Case Study: Chesapeake Bay, USA-1

In summer 2004, a dead zone spanned more than a third of the Chesapeake Bay floor. Around the world, similar dead zones are occurring with increasing frequency in estuaries and near the mouths of major rivers. Local pork and chicken production creates manure, which runs off into tributaries feeding the Chesapeake Bay. Nitrogen in the water makes algae and other single-celled plants (phytoplankton) grow excessively. As the excess algae die, bacteria that decompose the plant matter may use up virtually all the dissolved oxygen in the water, creating bottom-hugging, low-oxygen “dead zones.” This map shows measurements of dissolved oxygen for July 15–30, 2004. The graph on the right shows dissolved oxygen levels between the surface and a depth of 40 meters through the center of the Bay. Orange and red colors correspond to the dead zone.

When you monitor the nitrate concentration at your study site, you are providing exactly the kind of information that is needed to understand how dead zones are created in our aquatic systems.





Case Study: Chesapeake Bay, USA-2

Researchers use satellite measurements of ocean color to estimate the amount of microscopic plant life that lives in the Chesapeake Bay and other bodies of water. Ocean color depends on what is in the water. When large numbers of plants are growing in the water, the chlorophyll and other plant pigments affect the water's color, making it greener, sometimes even with shades of red. The kinds and amounts of plant life are indicators of the health of marine ecosystems.

Read more here: [Earth Observatory](#)



(NASA image courtesy Jeff Schmaltz,
[MODIS Rapid Response](#))

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Let's Test your Knowledge! Question 1

True or False: The dissolved oxygen measurement measures oxygen found in the water molecule.

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Let's Test your Knowledge! Answer to Question 1

True or False: The dissolved oxygen measurement measures oxygen found in the water molecule.

Answer: False. The measurement does not measure the oxygen in water molecules 😊

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Let's Test your Knowledge! Question 2

True or False: All other things being equal, colder water can dissolve more oxygen than warmer water.

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Let's Test your Knowledge! Answer to Question 2

True or False: All other things being equal, colder water can dissolve more oxygen than warmer water.

Answer: True 😊

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Let's Test your Knowledge! Question 3

Which of the following is a way that oxygen can be added to an aquatic system?

- A. By plants during photosynthesis.
- B. Through diffusion from the atmosphere.
- C. By aeration, which is the mixing of water by air, through things like waves and waterfalls.
- D. A and B only
- E. A, B, and C

A. What is dissolved oxygen?

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- C. By aeration, which is the mixing of water by air, through things like waves and waterfalls.
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E. A, B, and C- correct 😊

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Let's Test your Knowledge! Question 4

When is water considered to be hypoxic? Hypoxia is a condition where there is:

- A. Less than 2 ppm of dissolved oxygen in the water
- B. When there is no dissolved oxygen in the water
- C. When there is too much dissolved oxygen in the water

A. What is dissolved oxygen?

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Let's Test your Knowledge! Answer to Question 4

When is water considered to be hypoxic? Hypoxia is a condition where there is:

- A. Less than 2 ppm of dissolved oxygen in the water-correct! 😊**
- B. When there is no dissolved oxygen in the water
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A. What is dissolved oxygen?

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Dissolved Oxygen Protocol Methods

This slide set covers two methods to measure Dissolved Oxygen:

- I. [Dissolved Oxygen protocol using a Test Kit](#)
- II. [Dissolved Oxygen protocol using a Probe](#)

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Protocol at a Glance

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Where	Hydrology study site
Time Needed	Kit Quality Control: 20minutes; Kit measurements 20 minutes / Probe Setup: 20-30 minutes; Probe measurements 10 minutes
Prerequisites	Hydrology Investigation Study Site Definition. Salinity Protocol, if investigating ocean or brackish waters
Key Instrument	Dissolved Oxygen Kit / Dissolved Oxygen Probe
Skill Level	Middle and Secondary
Frequency	Ideally, weekly. Quality Control Procedure for Kit every 6 months. Probe calibration every time probe is used.



Simultaneous or Prior Investigations Required Prior to Doing the Dissolved Oxygen Protocol

The Water DO Protocol will allow you to determine the amount of dissolved oxygen of a water body. This protocol is conducted at your **GLOBE Study Site**. You will need to define your **GLOBE Study Site** where you will conduct your **Hydrosphere Investigation** prior to beginning this protocol. The **Hydrosphere Investigation Data Sheet** is used to record all the hydrosphere measurements, including DO. You will also want to map your Hydrosphere Site at some point.

- [GLOBE Study Site Definition Sheet](#)
- [Hydrosphere Investigation Data Sheet](#)
- [Mapping your Hydrosphere Study Site Field Guide](#)



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Site Selection: Hydrosphere Study Requirements

All your hydrosphere measurements are taken at the same Hydrosphere Study Site. This may be any surface water site that can be safely visited and monitored regularly, although natural waters are preferred. Sites may include (in order of preference):

1. Stream or river
2. Lake, reservoir, bay or ocean
3. Pond
4. An irrigation ditch or other water body, if natural body is not available



Students measure nitrate, pH and DO through ice covering the Volga River.

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Site Selection: Hydrosphere Study Site

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Select a specific site where the hydrosphere measurements (water temperature, dissolved oxygen, nitrate, pH, alkalinity, turbidity, and either conductivity or salinity) will be taken. If the selected study site is a moving body of water (i.e. stream or river), locate your sampling site at a riffle area as opposed to still water or rapids. This will provide a more representative measurement of the water in the stream or river. If the selected study site is a still body of water (i.e. a lake or reservoir), find a sampling site near the outlet area or along the middle of the water body. Avoid inlet areas. A bridge or a pier are good choices. If your water body is brackish or salty, you will need to know the times of high and low tide at a location as close as possible to your study site.



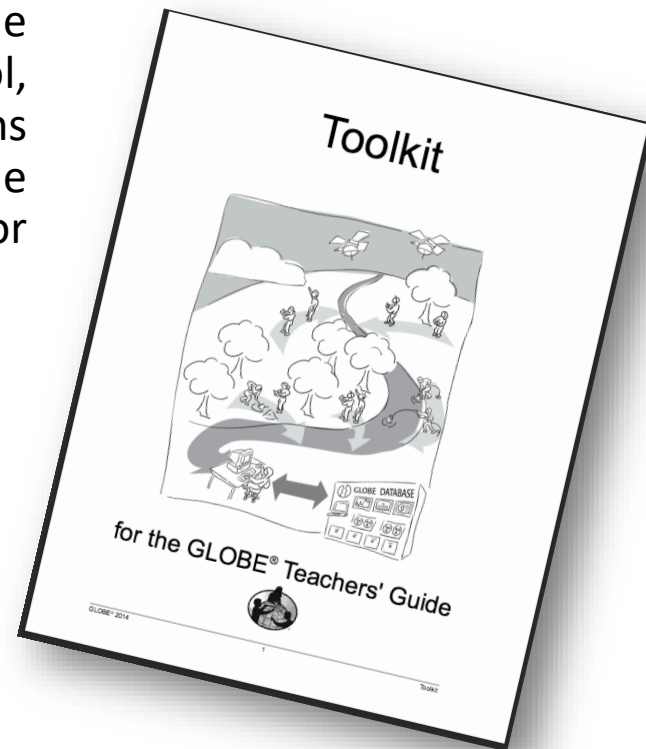


Sources for Equipment You Need for the Water DO Protocol

The following resources summarize the measurements associated with each protocol, associated skill level, scientific specifications for the instruments, and how to access the equipment you need (purchase, build, or download).

[Where to find specifications for instruments used in GLOBE investigations](#)

[Where to find scientific instruments used in GLOBE investigations](#)



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I. Dissolved Oxygen Protocol: Using a Test Kit



Overview of Water DO Protocol (Test Kit)

A. What is dissolved oxygen?

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1. To test for the accuracy of the procedure and the precision of the kit (e.g., the components and chemicals), a quality control procedure should be conducted.
2. The kits have two main parts: sample preservation (stabilization or fixing) and sample testing. Preservation involves the addition of a chemical to the sample that precipitates in the presence of dissolved oxygen, followed by the addition of a chemical that produces a colored solution. Testing involves adding drops of a titrant solution until the color disappears. The dissolved oxygen value is calculated from the volume of titrant added.



The amount of DO can change rapidly after a sample is collected. It is important to preserve the water sample shortly after collecting. After sample preservation, sample testing can be done either in the field or taken back to the lab to determine the amount of DO in the water.



Quality Control Procedure for Dissolved Oxygen Kits (1/7)

For the quality control procedure, you compare the measured dissolved oxygen in your standard solution with the saturated value from a table in order to determine if your kit and procedures are correct.

To make a saturated standard, you saturate distilled water by shaking a partially filled bottle of distilled water for 5 minutes. Since the solubility decreases with increasing temperature, increasing salinity, and decreasing air pressure, you control these variables in your dissolved oxygen standard by using distilled water, and correcting for the water temperature and elevation (an indirect measure of air pressure). You need to know the elevation where the procedure will be done. [Table HY-DO-2](#) contains the correction values for various atmospheric pressures and elevations.



Pay close attention to your quality control procedure. Without the quality control steps your DO data will not be meaningful or comparable to data collected by others!

A. What is dissolved oxygen?

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Quality Control Procedure for Dissolved Oxygen Kits (2/7)

Assemble Equipment:

- Distilled water
- 100-mL graduated cylinder
- 250-mL polyethylene bottle with lid
- Thermometer
- Waste bottle with cap for discarding used chemicals
- Dissolved oxygen test kit
- Latex gloves
- Goggles
- Pen or pencil
- Clock or watch

Assemble Necessary Documents:

[Dissolved Oxygen Protocol \(Test Kit\) Field Guide](#)

[Quality Control Procedure Data Sheet](#)

[Quality Control Procedure for DO Kits Lab Guide](#)





Quality Control Procedure for Dissolved Oxygen Kits (3/7)

1. Put on your gloves and protective goggles.
2. Rinse the 250-mL bottle twice with distilled water.
3. Pour 100 mL of distilled water into the 250-mL bottle.
4. Put the lid on the bottle. Shake the bottle vigorously for 5 minutes. This is the standard you will use to test your kit.
5. Uncap the bottle and take the temperature of the water (see *Water Temperature Protocol Field Guide*). Be sure the tip of the thermometer does not touch the bottom or sides of the bottle.
6. Record the temperature of the distilled water standard on the *Hydrosphere Investigation Quality Control Data Sheet*.



SAFETY be sure to wear gloves and goggles during your investigation



A. What is dissolved oxygen?

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Quality Control Procedure for Dissolved Oxygen Kits (4/7)

7. Pour the standard into the sample bottle in your dissolved oxygen kit. Fill the sample bottle completely to the top. Put the lid on the sample bottle. Turn the bottle upside down while it is capped. There should not be any air bubbles.

Note: It is not necessary to immerse the sample bottle in the water to collect your sample when you are doing the quality control procedure.

8. Follow the directions in your dissolved oxygen kit to measure the dissolved oxygen of your standard.

9. Record the amount of dissolved oxygen (mg/L) in your standard on your Hydrosphere Investigation Quality Control Data Sheet.

A. What is dissolved oxygen?

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Quality Control Procedure for Dissolved Oxygen Kits (5/7)

10. Look up the temperature you recorded earlier on the Solubility of Oxygen Table. [See Table HY-DO-1.](#)

11. Record the solubility for your water temperature.

Table HY-DO-1: Solubility of Oxygen in Fresh Water Exposed to Air at 1013.25 mB Pressure

Temp (°C)	Solubility (mg/L)	Temp (°C)	Solubility (mg/L)	Temp (°C)	Solubility (mg/L)
0	14.6	16	9.9	32	7.3
1	14.2	17	9.7	33	7.2
2	13.8	18	9.5	34	7.1
3	13.5	19	9.3	35	7.0
4	13.1	20	9.1	36	6.8
5	12.8	21	8.9	37	6.7
6	12.5	22	8.7	38	6.6
7	12.1	23	8.6	39	6.5
8	11.9	24	8.4	40	6.4
9	11.6	25	8.3	41	6.3
10	11.3	26	8.1	42	6.2
11	11.0	27	8.0	43	6.1
12	10.8	28	7.8	44	6.0
13	10.5	29	7.7	45	5.9
14	10.3	30	7.6	46	5.8
15	10.1	31	7.4	47	5.7

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Quality Control Procedure for Dissolved Oxygen Kits (6/7)

12. Find the elevation closest to yours on the Correction for Elevation/Pressure Table. [See Table HY-DO-2.](#)

13. Record the correction value for your elevation.

Table HY-DO-2: Correction Values For Various Atmospheric Pressures and Elevations

Pressure (millibars)	elev (m)	Correction value (%)	Pressure (millibars)	elev (m)	Correction value (%)
1023	-84	1.01	841	1544	0.83
1013	0	1.00	831	1643	0.82
1003	85	0.99	821	1743	0.81
993	170	0.98	811	1843	0.80
983	256	0.97	800	1945	0.79
973	343	0.96	790	2047	0.78
963	431	0.95	780	2151	0.77
952	519	0.94	770	2256	0.76
942	608	0.93	760	2362	0.75
932	698	0.92	750	2469	0.74
922	789	0.91	740	2577	0.73
912	880	0.90	730	2687	0.72
902	972	0.89	719	2797	0.71
892	1066	0.88	709	2909	0.70
882	1160	0.87	699	3023	0.69
871	1254	0.86	689	3137	0.68
861	1350	0.85	679	3253	0.67
851	1447	0.84	669	3371	0.66

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Quality Control Procedure for Dissolved Oxygen Kits (7/7)

14. Multiply the solubility of your standard times the correction value. This is the expected amount of dissolved oxygen in your standard.

15. Compare the amount of dissolved oxygen you measured with the kit to the expected amount for your standard.

16. If the measurement is within $\pm 1\text{mg/L}$, record the dissolved oxygen value on the Hydrosphere Investigation Quality Control Procedure Data Sheet. If the measurement is not within this range, repeat the entire quality control procedure.

17. If your measurements are still not in range, your kit may not be working properly.

18. Pour all used chemicals into the waste bottle. Clean your kit with distilled water.

You are done with the Dissolved Oxygen Quality Control procedure and can now move to the Dissolved Oxygen Protocol.

A. What is dissolved oxygen?

B. Why collect DO data?

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Dissolved Oxygen Protocol Using a Commercial Test Kit (1/3)

Objective: Measure dissolved oxygen of water sample with test kit.

What You Need

Distilled Water

Waste Bottle with Cap for used chemicals

Latex Gloves

Pen or Pencil

Goggles

Dissolved Oxygen Test Kit



A. What is
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oxygen?

B. Why collect
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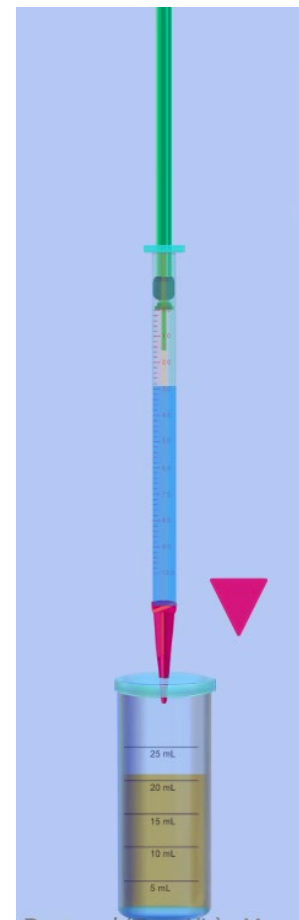
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Dissolved Oxygen Protocol Using a Commercial Test Kit (2/3)

In the field

1. Fill out the top of the *Hydrosphere Investigation Data Sheet*.
2. Put on protective gear (gloves and goggles), prior to working with chemicals.
3. Rinse the sample bottle and hands with sample water three times.
4. Place cap on sample bottle and submerge in sample water.
5. Remove the cap and allow bottle to fill (agitate the bottle to remove air bubbles).
6. Replace cap while bottle is submerged.
7. Remove sample bottle and turn upside down to check for air bubbles (if present discard sample water and repeat process).
8. Follow the measurement instructions included with the kit.



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Dissolved Oxygen Protocol Using a Commercial Test Kit (3/3)

A. What is dissolved oxygen?

B. Why collect DO data?

C. How your measurements can help

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9. Record dissolved oxygen on data sheet as test 1.

10. Have two others repeat the process with different water samples each time and record on data sheet as test 2 and test 3.

11. Calculate the average of the three measurements.

Note: Each measurement should be within 1 mg/L of the average. If one measurement is not, take the average of the two remaining measurements.

12. Discard all used chemicals into waste container and clean kit with distilled water.

You have now completed the Dissolved Oxygen Protocol Using a Commercial Test Kit!

Dissolved Oxygen:

Dissolved Oxygen kit: Manufacturer _____ Model _____ Salinity _____ (ppt)

Dissolved Oxygen Test 1: _____ (mg/L)

Dissolved Oxygen Test 2: _____ (mg/L)

Dissolved Oxygen Test 3: _____ (mg/L)

Dissolved Oxygen probe: Manufacturer _____ Model _____

	Probe Measure	Salinity Correction Factor	Dissolved Oxygen (mg/L)
Test 1			
Test 2			
Test 3			

Note: Salinity correction factor is taken from the manufacturer's instructions for the probe.

Comments: _____



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II. Dissolved Oxygen Protocol: Using a Probe



Overview of Water DO Protocol (Probe)

For measuring dissolved oxygen with a probe, you will hear references to either conductivity probes or meters. For clarification, probes are the instruments that measure voltage or resistance in a water sample. Meters are instruments that convert electrical (voltage or resistance) measurements to concentrations. In order to measure dissolved oxygen (or other types of measurements), both a probe and meter are required. Sometimes the probe and meter are within one instrument and cannot be taken apart. Other instruments have probes that are separate from the meters and need to be connected to the meters in order to take the water measurements.



The amount of DO can change rapidly after a sample is collected. It is important to preserve the water sample shortly after collecting. After sample preservation, sample testing can be done either in the field or taken back to the lab to determine the amount of DO in the water.

A. What is dissolved oxygen?

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B. Why collect DO data?

C. How your measurements can help

D. How to collect your data.

E. Entering data on GLOBE Website.

F. Understand the data.

G. Quiz yourself

H. Additional resources

Water DO Protocol Using a Probe: Salinity Correction

When measuring dissolved oxygen in salt waters (conductivity greater than 1000 mg/L or salinity greater than 1 ppt), you will need to apply a salinity correction factor to the measurement taken by the probe. Saline water can hold less oxygen at the same temperature and pressure than can fresh water. Different probes have different procedures for this correction. Some have the salinity correction before you measure DO and others afterward. Please refer to your manual for the procedure for your probe. As this correction can affect your measurement, it is necessary to measure salinity each time you measure DO and mark it down on your *Hydrosphere Investigation Data Sheet*.

Water DO Protocol Using a Probe: Elevation

Determine the elevation at your sampling site if you are not using a barometer.



Materials

Assemble Equipment:

- Dissolved Oxygen Probe
- Zero Oxygen solution (if applicable for your probe)
- 250 mL polyethylene bottle with lid
- Latex gloves
- Distilled water
- Salinity correction tables (if appropriate)
- Barometer
- Pen or pencil

Assemble Necessary Documents:

[Dissolved Oxygen Protocol \(Probe\) Field Guide](#)



A. What is dissolved oxygen?

B. Why collect DO data?

C. How your measurements can help

D. How to collect your data.

E. Entering data on GLOBE Website.

F. Understand the data.

G. Quiz yourself

H. Additional resources



Quality Control Procedure: Calibration of a Probe

Calibration can take place in the lab or the field. It is done within 24 hours prior to measurement.

1. Warm up the probe according to manual procedure.
2. Use barometer to measure atmospheric pressure at site or use the elevation to approximate.
3. Follow manual instructions to enter probe's calibration information.
4. Follow manual instructions to measure the first calibration point (Zero Oxygen point).
5. Rinse probe with distilled water and pat dry without touching the membrane.
6. Follow manual instructions to measure second calibration point (100% Oxygen).

When these steps are complete, you are ready to take DO measurements of your water sample!

A. What is dissolved oxygen?

B. Why collect DO data?

C. How your measurements can help

D. How to collect your data.

E. Entering data on GLOBE Website.

F. Understand the data.

G. Quiz yourself

H. Additional resources



Dissolved Oxygen Protocol Using a DO Probe (1/2)

In the field:

1. Warm up the probe as described in the probe manual.
2. Lower the tip of the probe into the water body that you are sampling and slowly move it back and forth. If you are measuring a stream or river and the water is moving past the probe, you can just hold the probe in place.



SAFETY be sure to wear gloves and goggles during your investigation



A. What is dissolved oxygen?

B. Why collect DO data?

C. How your measurements can help

D. How to collect your data.

E. Entering data on GLOBE Website.

F. Understand the data.

G. Quiz yourself

H. Additional resources



Dissolved Oxygen Protocol Using a DO Probe (2/2)

A. What is dissolved oxygen?

B. Why collect DO data?

C. How your measurements can help

D. How to collect your data.

E. Entering data on GLOBE Website.

F. Understand the data.

G. Quiz yourself

H. Additional resources

3. When reading has stabilized, record the dissolved oxygen in your water body on your *Hydrosphere Investigation Data Sheet*.
4. Repeat the readings two more times and record the dissolved oxygen under test 2 and test 3.
5. Check to make sure that the three readings are within 0.2 mg/L of one another. If they are not, continue taking readings until the last three are within 0.2 mg/L of one another.
6. Apply the salinity correction (if appropriate).
7. Calculate the average of the three (adjusted if salinity correction was applied).
8. Rinse the electrode with distilled water and blot dry. Cap electrode to protect membrane and turn off meter.

Dissolved Oxygen:
Dissolved Oxygen kit: Manufacturer _____ Model _____ Salinity _____ (ppt)

Dissolved Oxygen Test 1: _____ (mg/L)
Dissolved Oxygen Test 2: _____ (mg/L)
Dissolved Oxygen Test 3: _____ (mg/L)

Dissolved Oxygen probe: Manufacturer _____ Model _____

	Probe Measure	Salinity Correction Factor	Dissolved Oxygen (mg/L)
Test 1			
Test 2			
Test 3			

Note: Salinity correction factor is taken from the manufacturer's instructions for the probe.
Comments: _____

You have completed your Dissolved Oxygen Measurements!



Let's test your knowledge! Question 5

How often should you conduct the quality control procedure for DO kits?

- A. Every time you conduct the Dissolved Oxygen Protocol
- B. Once every 6 months
- C. Every 48 hours

A. What is dissolved oxygen?

B. Why collect DO data?

C. How your measurements can help

D. How to collect your data.

E. Entering data on GLOBE Website.

F. Understand the data.

G. Quiz yourself

H. Additional resources



Let's test your knowledge! Answer to Question 5

How often should you conduct the quality control procedure for DO kits?

A. Every time you conduct the Dissolved Oxygen Protocol

B. Once every 6 months- correct! 😊

C. Every 48 hours

A. What is dissolved oxygen?

B. Why collect DO data?

C. How your measurements can help

D. How to collect your data.

E. Entering data on GLOBE Website.

F. Understand the data.

G. Quiz yourself

H. Additional resources



Let's test your knowledge! Question 6

When you calculate dissolved oxygen you need to correct for:

- A. Use of distilled water
- B. Water temperature
- C. Atmospheric pressure and elevations
- D. All of the above
- E. B and C only

A. What is dissolved oxygen?

B. Why collect DO data?

C. How your measurements can help

D. How to collect your data.

E. Entering data on GLOBE Website.

F. Understand the data.

G. Quiz yourself

H. Additional resources



Let's test your knowledge! Answer to Question 6

When you calculate dissolved oxygen you need to correct for:

- A. Use of distilled water
- B. Water temperature
- C. Atmospheric pressure and elevations
- D. All of the above

E. B and C only- correct!

A. What is dissolved oxygen?

B. Why collect DO data?

C. How your measurements can help

D. How to collect your data.

E. Entering data on GLOBE Website.

F. Understand the data.

G. Quiz yourself

H. Additional resources



Let's test your knowledge! Question 7

When measuring DO with a test kit, no greater than $\pm 1\text{mg/L}$ difference in measured value is acceptable for:

- A. Each of the three dissolved oxygen measurements you take on your sample
- B. The difference between the amount of dissolved oxygen expected using the kit and the measurement using the standard
- C. None of the above
- D. A and B

A. What is dissolved oxygen?

B. Why collect DO data?

C. How your measurements can help

D. How to collect your data.

E. Entering data on GLOBE Website.

F. Understand the data.

G. Quiz yourself

H. Additional resources



Let's test your knowledge! Answer to Question 7

When measuring DO with a test kit, no greater than $\pm 1\text{mg/L}$ difference in measured value is acceptable for:

- A. Each of the three dissolved oxygen measurements you take on your sample
- B. The difference between the amount of dissolved oxygen expected using the kit and the measurement using the standard
- C. None of the above
- D. A and B –correct! 😊**

A. What is dissolved oxygen?

B. Why collect DO data?

C. How your measurements can help

D. How to collect your data.

E. Entering data on GLOBE Website.

F. Understand the data.

G. Quiz yourself

H. Additional resources



Let's test your knowledge so far! Question 8

True or False: The dissolved oxygen content of a sample can change very rapidly upon collection.

A. What is dissolved oxygen?

B. Why collect DO data?

C. How your measurements can help

D. How to collect your data.

E. Entering data on GLOBE Website.

F. Understand the data.

G. Quiz yourself

H. Additional resources



Let's test your knowledge so far! Answer to Question 8

True or False: The dissolved oxygen content of a sample can change very rapidly upon collection.

Answer: True 😊

A. What is dissolved oxygen?

B. Why collect DO data?

C. How your measurements can help

D. How to collect your data.

E. Entering data on GLOBE Website.

F. Understand the data.

G. Quiz yourself

H. Additional resources



Let's test your knowledge so far! Question 9

How often do you need to calibrate your dissolved oxygen probe?

- A. Within 24 hours of using the probe
- B. Within 6 months of using the probe

A. What is dissolved oxygen?

B. Why collect DO data?

C. How your measurements can help

D. How to collect your data.

E. Entering data on GLOBE Website.

F. Understand the data.

G. Quiz yourself

H. Additional resources



Let's test your knowledge so far! Answer to Question 9

How often do you need to calibrate your dissolved oxygen probe?

A. Within 24 hours of using the probe - correct 😊

B. Within 6 months of using the probe

A. What is dissolved oxygen?

B. Why collect DO data?

C. How your measurements can help

D. How to collect your data.

E. Entering data on GLOBE Website.

F. Understand the data.

G. Quiz yourself

H. Additional resources



Let's test your knowledge so far! Question 10

In the field, what is necessary to test calibration of the probe?

- A. Place the probe in 100% oxygen saturated water.
- B. The value of the dissolved oxygen value in the sample shaken for 5 minutes is within ± 0.2 mg/L of the expected value.
- C. Check the calibration tables for the amount of oxygen present at 100% saturation at that temperature.
- D. All of the above.
- E. A and C only.

A. What is dissolved oxygen?

B. Why collect DO data?

C. How your measurements can help

D. How to collect your data.

E. Entering data on GLOBE Website.

F. Understand the data.

G. Quiz yourself

H. Additional resources



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- C. Check the calibration tables for the amount of oxygen present at 100% saturation at that temperature.
- D. All of the above. - correct 😊**
- E. A and C only.

A. What is dissolved oxygen?

B. Why collect DO data?

C. How your measurements can help

D. How to collect your data.

E. Entering data on GLOBE Website.

F. Understand the data.

G. Quiz yourself

H. Additional resources



Let's test your knowledge so far! Question 11

True or False: Saline water can hold more oxygen than fresh water at the same pressure and temperature.

A. What is dissolved oxygen?

B. Why collect DO data?

C. How your measurements can help

D. How to collect your data.

E. Entering data on GLOBE Website.

F. Understand the data.

G. Quiz yourself

H. Additional resources



Let's test your knowledge so far! Answer to Question 11

True or False: Saline water can hold more oxygen than fresh water at the same pressure and temperature.

Answer: False 😊

A. What is dissolved oxygen?

B. Why collect DO data?

C. How your measurements can help

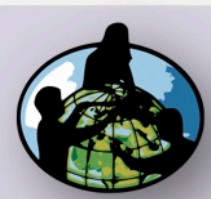
D. How to collect your data.

E. Entering data on GLOBE Website.

F. Understand the data.

G. Quiz yourself

H. Additional resources



Reporting Data to GLOBE

Live Data Entry: Upload your data to the official GLOBE science database.

Email Data Entry: Send data in the body of your email (not as an attachment) to **DATA@GLOBE.GOV**.

Mobile Data App: Download the GLOBE Science Data Entry app to your mobile device and select the right option.

For Android via **[Google Play](#)**

For IOS via the **[App Store](#)**



The GLOBE Program Science Data Entry

The GLOBE mobile app allows GLOBE users to perform data entry on a large number of GLOBE science protocols. To use this app, you will need a GLOBE account.

I have a GLOBE account:

[Sign In](#)

[JOIN GLOBE](#) | [CONTACT GLOBE](#)

A. What is dissolved oxygen?

B. Why collect DO data?

C. How your measurements can help

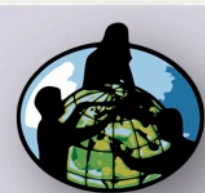
D. How to collect your data.

E. Entering data on GLOBE Website.

F. Understand the data.

G. Quiz yourself

H. Additional resources



Hydrosphere



Dissolved Oxygen Protocol

Enter
data on
GLOBE
website

Entering your data via Live Data Entry or Data Entry Mobile App-1

A. What is dissolved oxygen?

B. Why collect DO data?

C. How your measurements can help

D. How to collect your data.

E. Entering data on GLOBE Website.

F. Understand the data.

G. Quiz yourself

H. Additional resources

Identify your
Sampling site

Select
"Integrated Hydrology"
and "New observation"

Welcome to the GLOBE data entry site.

My Bookmarks

You have not bookmarked any investigations yet. Expand the organizations and click the stars next to the investigations to create a bookmark.

My Organizations and Sites

- University of Nebraska-Lincoln GLOBE v-School [Add site](#)
- + Lefthand Creek [Latitude 40, Longitude -105, Elevation 1600m](#) [Edit site](#) [Delete site](#)

Hydrology

- Freshwater Macroinvertebrates ★
[New observation](#) [Past observations](#)
- Integrated Hydrology ★
[New observation](#) [Past observations](#)
- Mosquitoes ★
[New observation](#) [Past observations](#)



Entering your data via Live Data Entry or Data Entry Mobile App-2

A. What is dissolved oxygen?

B. Why collect DO data?

C. How your measurements can help

D. How to collect your data.

E. Entering data on GLOBE Website.

F. Understand the data.

G. Quiz yourself

H. Additional resources

1. Select water body state

2. Select protocol

Be sure to enter data as Dissolved Oxygen Kit / Probe

4. Click to send data

3. Enter each measurement and click "add"

You are done! Want to check who else has submitted DO data using the GLOBE Visualization System?



Visualize and Retrieve Water DO Data-1

A. What is dissolved oxygen?

B. Why collect DO data?

C. How your measurements can help

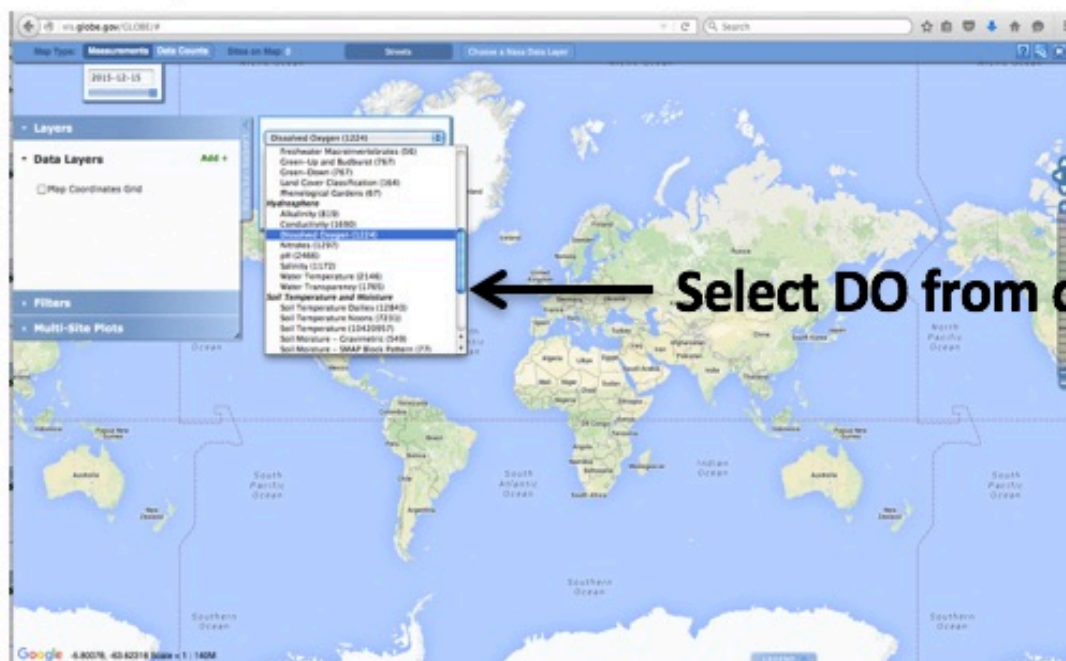
D. How to collect your data.

E. Entering data on GLOBE Website.

F. Understand the data.

G. Quiz yourself

H. Additional resources



Select DO from drop down menu

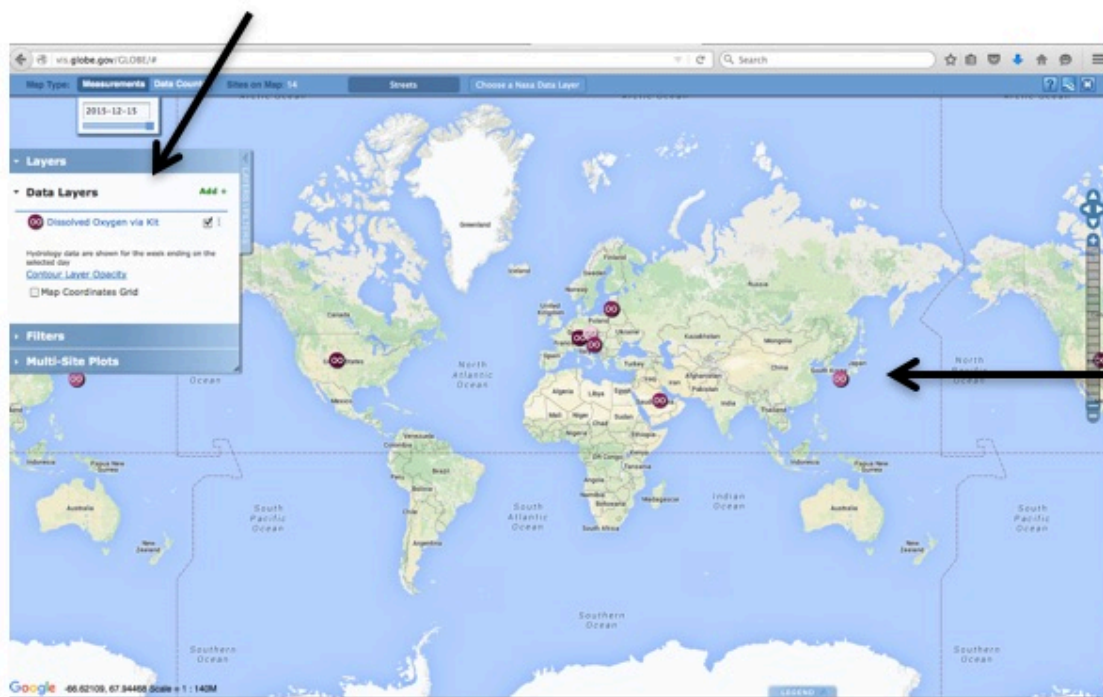
Our [visualization tool](#) to map, graph, filter and export DO data that have been measured across GLOBE protocols since 1995. Here are screenshots steps you will use when you use the visualization tool.

Link to step-by-step tutorials on Using the Visualization System will assist you in finding and analyzing GLOBE data: [PDF version](#)



Visualize and Retrieve Water DO Data-2

Select the date for which you need DO data, add layer and you can see where data is available.



Locations where DO
data is available

A. What is
dissolved
oxygen?

B. Why collect
DO data?

C. How your
measurements
can help

D. How to
collect your
data.

E. Entering
data on GLOBE
Website.

F. Understand
the data.

G. Quiz
yourself

H. Additional
resources



Visualize and Retrieve Water DO Data-3

A. What is dissolved oxygen?

B. Why collect DO data?

C. How your measurements can help

D. How to collect your data.

E. Entering data on GLOBE Website.

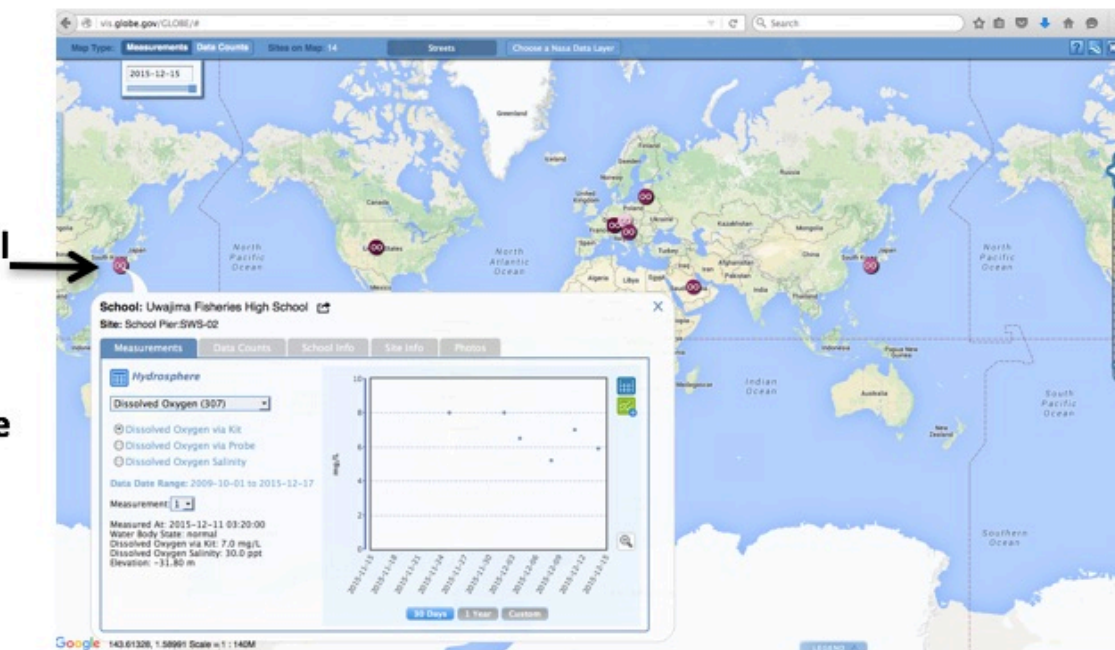
F. Understand the data.

G. Quiz yourself

H. Additional resources

Select the sampling site for which you need DO data, and a box will open with data summary for that site.

Clicking on a location will open to a map note providing DO data for that location and time. Follow instructions in the tutorial to download data as a .csv file for analysis.





Review questions to help you prepare to conduct the Hydrosphere Dissolved Oxygen Protocol

A. What is dissolved oxygen?

B. Why collect DO data?

C. How your measurements can help

D. How to collect your data.

E. Entering data on GLOBE Website.

F. Understand the data.

G. Quiz yourself

H. Additional resources

1. Does the dissolved oxygen protocol also measure the oxygen in water (H₂O)?
2. Which temperature holds more dissolved oxygen: warm water or cold water?
3. Does salinity affect the solubility of oxygen?
4. How does atmospheric pressure affect the solubility of oxygen?
5. What is hypoxia?
6. How many ppm of dissolved oxygen is in the water when the water is anoxic?
7. Why do you need to stabilize the dissolved oxygen sample immediately after collecting?
8. What are the safety precautions you should take when doing any of the hydrology protocols?
9. What is the acceptable range of error of the three replicate samples you take, in ppm?
10. What step do you need to complete before starting the Dissolved Oxygen protocol?



You are done!

You have now completed the slide set. If you are ready to take the quiz, sign on and take the quiz corresponding to **Dissolved Oxygen Protocol**.

You can also review the slide stack, post questions on the discussion board, or look at the FAQs on the next page.

When you pass the quiz, you are ready to take **Dissolved Oxygen Protocol** measurements!

A. What is dissolved oxygen?

B. Why collect DO data?

C. How your measurements can help

D. How to collect your data.

E. Entering data on GLOBE Website.

F. Understand the data.

G. Quiz yourself

H. Additional resources



FAQ: Frequently Asked Questions-1

Why do we have to do the measurements at the same time of day?

The amount of dissolved oxygen may change during the day as the water begins to warm up. More light penetrating the water causes more photosynthesis to occur. This can also increase the amount of dissolved oxygen. For this reason it is important to do your Hydrosphere measurements at the same time of day each week.

What will make my dissolved oxygen levels change over the year?

Besides seasonal differences in temperature, seasonal changes in the flow of your stream, changes in transparency, or changes in productivity (amount of growth of plants and animals in the water) will cause changes in dissolved oxygen levels.

What is saturated DO?

Saturated DO refers to the maximum oxygen that water can hold at a particular temperature, pressure and salinity. When you calibrate your DO probe, the 100% saturation point is saturated Dissolved Oxygen.

Why do we need to measure salinity each time?

In arid and semi-arid areas, salinity or conductivity levels vary depending on whether it is a dry or rainy season. In estuaries, salinity can vary depending on the time of the tide or even in dry or wet years.

A. What is dissolved oxygen?

B. Why collect DO data?

C. How your measurements can help

D. How to collect your data.

E. Entering data on GLOBE Website.

F. Understand the data.

G. Quiz yourself

H. Additional resources



FAQ: Frequently Asked Questions-2

A. What is dissolved oxygen?

B. Why collect DO data?

C. How your measurements can help

D. How to collect your data.

E. Entering data on GLOBE Website.

F. Understand the data.

G. Quiz yourself

H. Additional resources

Why does salt concentration affect oxygen saturation?

As the salt content increases in water, fewer oxygen molecules can be dissolved. Therefore, as salinity increases, saturated DO decreases in a water sample under the same temperature and pressure.

HY-DO-3: Solubility of Oxygen in Salt Water at Sea Level (1013.25 mB) with Temperature and Salinity

Temperature (°C)	Salinity (ppt)												
	0	5	10	15	20	25	30	35	40	45	50	55	60
1	14.2	13.7	13.3	12.8	12.4	12.0	11.5	11.2	10.8	10.4	10.1	9.7	9.4
2	13.8	13.4	12.9	12.5	12.1	11.6	11.3	10.9	10.5	10.2	9.8	9.5	9.2
3	13.5	13.0	12.6	12.2	11.7	11.4	11.0	10.6	10.3	9.9	9.6	9.3	8.9
4	13.1	12.7	12.3	11.8	11.5	11.1	10.7	10.4	10.0	9.7	9.4	9.0	8.7
5	12.8	12.4	11.9	11.6	11.2	10.8	10.5	10.1	9.8	9.5	9.1	8.8	8.6
6	12.4	12.0	11.7	11.3	10.9	10.5	10.2	9.9	9.6	9.2	8.9	8.6	8.4
7	12.1	11.7	11.4	11.0	10.6	10.3	10.0	9.6	9.3	9.0	8.7	8.5	8.2
8	11.8	11.5	11.1	10.7	10.4	10.1	9.7	9.4	9.1	8.8	8.6	8.3	8.0
9	11.6	11.2	10.8	10.5	10.2	9.8	9.5	9.2	8.9	8.6	8.4	8.1	7.9
10	11.3	10.9	10.6	10.3	9.9	9.6	9.3	9.0	8.7	8.5	8.2	7.9	7.7
11	11.0	10.7	10.3	10.0	9.7	9.4	9.1	8.8	8.6	8.3	8.0	7.8	7.5
12	10.8	10.4	10.1	9.8	9.5	9.2	8.9	8.6	8.4	8.1	7.9	7.6	7.4
13	10.5	10.2	9.9	9.6	9.3	9.0	8.7	8.5	8.2	8.0	7.7	7.5	7.2
14	10.3	10.0	9.7	9.4	9.1	8.8	8.6	8.3	8.0	7.8	7.6	7.3	7.1
15	10.1	9.8	9.5	9.2	8.9	8.6	8.4	8.1	7.9	7.7	7.4	7.2	7.0
16	9.9	9.6	9.3	9.0	8.7	8.5	8.2	8.0	7.7	7.5	7.3	7.1	6.9
17	9.7	9.4	9.1	8.8	8.6	8.3	8.1	7.8	7.6	7.4	7.1	6.9	6.7
18	9.5	9.2	8.9	8.7	8.4	8.2	7.9	7.7	7.4	7.2	7.0	6.8	6.6
19	9.3	9.0	8.7	8.5	8.2	8.0	7.8	7.5	7.3	7.1	6.9	6.7	6.5
20	9.1	8.8	8.6	8.3	8.1	7.8	7.6	7.4	7.2	7.0	6.8	6.6	6.4
21	8.9	8.7	8.4	8.2	7.9	7.7	7.5	7.3	7.1	6.8	6.7	6.5	6.3
22	8.7	8.5	8.3	8.0	7.8	7.6	7.3	7.1	6.9	6.7	6.5	6.4	6.2
23	8.6	8.3	8.1	7.9	7.6	7.4	7.2	7.0	6.8	6.6	6.4	6.2	6.1
24	8.4	8.2	7.9	7.7	7.5	7.3	7.1	6.9	6.7	6.5	6.3	6.1	6.0
25	8.3	8.0	7.8	7.6	7.4	7.2	7.0	6.8	6.6	6.4	6.2	6.0	5.9
26	8.1	7.9	7.7	7.5	7.2	7.0	6.8	6.7	6.5	6.3	6.1	5.9	5.8



FAQ: Frequently Asked Questions-3

Why does the amount of dissolved oxygen I measured not agree with the amount I calculated?

- There are two reasons why these numbers may not match. First, you may not have followed the instructions on your kit exactly or you may have made small errors in the procedure you used. Here are some troubleshooting tips:
- Make sure you do not have any air bubbles in your sample bottle or your titrator (for kits that use a titrator). To check for air bubbles in the sample bottle, turn the bottle upside down while it is capped and look for bubbles.
- Measure accurately. If you are adding drops from a bottle, hold the bottle vertically so that all of the drops are the same size.
- Allow all of the precipitate to settle. If you shake the bottle too hard before the precipitate settles, it may take 10 minutes or more for the settling to happen.
- Record accurately. If your kit asks you to count drops, have two people count to insure accuracy. If your kit asks you to read a titrator, make sure to read the instructions for accurately reading the titrator that come with your kit.
- If you are testing in salt waters make sure you refer to Table HY-DO-3 to determine the maximum amount of oxygen that waters with your salinity can hold. When fully saturated, salt waters can hold less oxygen than freshwaters.
- Another reason your measured value may not be the same as your calculated value is that there may be something wrong with the chemicals in your kit. In this case, you will need to get new chemicals.

A. What is dissolved oxygen?

B. Why collect DO data?

C. How your measurements can help

D. How to collect your data.

E. Entering data on GLOBE Website.

F. Understand the data.

G. Quiz yourself

H. Additional resources



Questions for Research Investigations

- How would a change in the amount of dissolved oxygen affect what lives in a water body?
- How could warming or cooling of the atmosphere affect the amount of dissolved oxygen in your water?
- How could changes in the land cover around your water site affect the amount of dissolved oxygen in your water?

A. What is dissolved oxygen?

B. Why collect DO data?

C. How your measurements can help

D. How to collect your data.

E. Entering data on GLOBE Website.

F. Understand the data.

G. Quiz yourself

H. Additional resources



A. What is dissolved oxygen?

B. Why collect DO data?

C. How your measurements can help

D. How to collect your data.

E. Entering data on GLOBE Website.

F. Understand the data.

G. Quiz yourself

H. Additional resources

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Questions about module content? Contact GLOBE: help@globe.gov

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Slides:

Russanne Low, Ph.D., University of Nebraska-Lincoln, USA

Rebecca Boger, Ph.D., Brooklyn College, NYC, USA

Photos: Russanne Low

Art: Jenn Glaser, *ScribeArts*

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