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Level 1

Desert beetles used to get water from air

1st March, 2016

<http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1603/160301-collecting-water-1.html>

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THE READING

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1603/160301-collecting-water-1.html>

Scientists may have found one answer to water shortages. It is a material that collects water from the air. They got the idea from an African desert beetle. The beetle is an expert at surviving in dry conditions. Its shell is covered in small bumps. These collect drops of water from the air to keep the beetle alive. Scientists studied the bumps. They will make their own materials to collect water from the air. This will help people who live in very dry areas.

The scientists say this technology could help us. It could help power plants, heating and air conditioning. One scientist said: "Thermal power plants [use things] to quickly convert steam to liquid water. [Our] design could help speed up that process." Another scientist, Joanna Aizenberg, said she was looking forward to getting more new technology from nature. She said: "Everybody is excited about bio-inspired materials research."

Sources: <http://www.pulseheadlines.com/scientists-developed-material-water-air/18647/>
<http://www.natureworldnews.com/articles/20230/20160326/desert-beetles-cacti-inspire-new-water-harvesting-techniques.htm>
<http://www.mnn.com/green-tech/research-innovations/blogs/scientists-steal-designs-nature-new-water-collecting-material>

VOCABULARY MATCHING

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1603/160301-collecting-water-1.html>

PARAGRAPH ONE:

- | | |
|-----------------------------------------|------------------------|
| 1. Scientists may have found one answer | a. desert beetle |
| 2. a material that collects | b. their own materials |
| 3. They got the idea from an African | c. to water shortages |
| 4. The beetle is an expert | d. in small bumps |
| 5. dry | e. dry areas |
| 6. Its shell is covered | f. conditions |
| 7. They will make | g. water from the air |
| 8. live in very | h. at surviving |

PARAGRAPH TWO:

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1. The scientists say this technology | a. up that process |
| 2. heating and air | b. about bio-inspired materials |
| 3. thermal power | c. to liquid water |
| 4. quickly convert steam | d. conditioning |
| 5. help speed | e. plants |
| 6. she was looking forward | f. nature |
| 7. new technology from | g. could help us |
| 8. Everybody is excited | h. to getting more |

LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1603/160301-collecting-water-1.html>

Scientists may have found (1) _____ water shortages. It (2) _____ that collects water from the air. They got the (3) _____ African desert beetle. The beetle is an expert at surviving in dry conditions. Its shell (4) _____ small bumps. These collect drops of water from (5) _____ the beetle alive. Scientists studied the bumps. They will make their own materials to collect water from the air. This (6) _____ who live in very dry areas.

The scientists say this technology (7) _____. It could help (8) _____, heating and air conditioning. One scientist said: "Thermal power plants [use things] to (9) _____ steam to liquid water. [Our] design could help (10) _____ that process." Another scientist, Joanna Aizenberg, said she was looking forward to (11) _____ new technology from nature. She said: "Everybody (12) _____ bio-inspired materials research."

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1603/160301-collecting-water-1.html>

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WRITE QUESTIONS & ASK YOUR PARTNER(S)

Student A: Do not show these to your speaking partner(s).

a)

b)

c)

d)

e)

f)

g)

h)

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WRITE QUESTIONS & ASK YOUR PARTNER(S)

Student B: Do not show these to your speaking partner(s).

a)

b)

c)

d)

e)

f)

g)

h)
