

hydros

water

hydroplane - (L. planus - flat surface) - boat that glides on the surface of the water

hydrophobia - (phobos - fear) - fear of water

dehydrate - (de - down, away from) - take water away

hydrogen - (genos, origin) - a gas which, when burned, produces water

hydrophone - (phone - sound) - instrument to "hear" under water

hydrology - (logos - word, study) - study of water

hydroelectric - (electron - amber) - electricity produced by moving water

Teaching Notes:

Hydrogen is one of the original elements listed on the periodic table of chemical elements. Hydrophobia (see Teaching Notes on page 7). Hydroplane - Most children have seen hydroplane boat races on TV where the boats skim across the water surface. Hydroelectric - is a word first used in 1884 to refer to a way of generating electricity by using moving water to turn turbines. The interesting partner word is electron - the Greek word for amber, a jewel which is really fossilized resin formed in prehistoric forests around the Baltic Sea millions of years ago. Ancient Greek traders brought these lumps of amber resin home where people valued it because it was pretty and easy to carve. Thales of Miletus, a Greek philosopher in 600 B.C., discovered that amber had strange characteristics. When he rubbed it with cloth, it would attract little feathers, threads, and straw. In the 1500s, an Englishman, William Gilbert, found other things, such as glass and sulphur, which behaved like amber and he called them "electrica". What we know as "electricity" took thousands of years getting itself discovered. But aren't we glad we have it now? Thales and Gilbert would be amazed! Do you have a piece of amber you could show the children?