

SC.912.L.18.12 – Properties of Water – Example 2 Answer

Large bodies of water, such as lakes and oceans, do not quickly fluctuate in temperature. What is the reason for this phenomenon?

- A. Water is an acid.**
- B. Water is a versatile solvent.**
- C. Water has a high heat capacity.**
- D. Water acts as a buffer.**

Answer

C. Water has a high heat capacity.

Water can absorb a large amount of energy without a large rise in temperature. This is called heat capacity. As the sun shines on bodies of water, they absorb great amounts of its energy without a large fluctuation in temperature.