

**THE MODERN
SCHOOL READERS.
FOURTH READER**

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The Modern School Readers. Fourth Reader by Anonymous .

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THE FOURTH READER.

LESSON I.

leagues	pre-cise'-ly	nē'-ces-sa-ry	at'-mo-sphere
fore'-head	re-sourc'-es	might'-i-est	im-pos'-si-ble
bap'-tism	fac'-tor-ies	re-volv'-ing	fruit'-ful-ness

THE SEA AND ITS USES.

1. It is a common thing, in speaking of the sea, to call it "a waste of waters." But this is a mistake. Instead of being a waste and a desert, it keeps the earth itself from becoming a waste and a desert. It is the world's fountain of life, and health, and beauty; and if it were taken away, the grass would perish from the mountains, the forest would crumble on the hills.

2. Water is as necessary to all life, vegetable or animal, as the air itself. This element of water is supplied entirely by the sea. The sea is the great inexhaustible fountain which is continually pouring *up* into the sky precisely as many streams, and as large, as all the rivers of the world are pouring into the sea.

3. The sea is the real birthplace of the clouds and the