

Water Conservation Lesson Plan



Aim

To show how vital water is in our lives and why it's so important to look after it.

Time requirements

Approximately 60 minutes

Resources

- Interactive water resource
- Whiteboard or projector

Activity 1

- A container of water
- A cloth
- Paper and pencils

Activity 2

- Paper and pencil
- Food colouring

Learning objectives

To learn, through discussion and observation, about the importance of water, the many different ways we use it, how it can be wasted and the measures we can take to save it.

Curriculum Strands

SESE, Science and Geography – Environmental awareness and care

SPHE – Myself and the wider world

English – Oral language and reading

Maths – Numbers and data

Skills

Questioning, observing, discussing, investigating, counting and analysing

Links to Green-Schools

Step 2 Environmental Review – conducting leak tests is an essential action

Step 4 Monitoring and Evaluation – documenting leaks and water usage

Step 6 Informing and Involving – publicising results of water diaries and leak tests

Vocabulary

Conservation, cisterns

Running the activity:

1) **Precious water** – To raise awareness about the importance of water:

- Put some water in a container and cover it. Tell the students you have the most important thing in the world under the cloth and ask them to guess what it is.
- See Section 3 on water conservation to explain how important water is.
- Ask the students to name all the ways people use water and write down their answers.
- Ask the students to keep a water diary for a day or two to see how they use water and discuss their results (compare with their original answers).
- Rank the answers showing the most frequent uses of water to the least frequent. You could research how much water each of these activities uses to calculate how much water the class is using.
- Ask the students how they think water is wasted and how they can stop the waste. Write down their answers and stick them up in class to remind students what they can do to reduce waste.

2) **Leak hunt** – To check your school for leaks:

- Put students in to groups, give them a pencil and paper and a place to visit in the school to check for leaks.
- Idea: those looking for leaks in the toilets could put food colouring in the cisterns and leave it there for a few minutes to see if the colouring reaches the bowl. If it does reach the bowl it means your toilet is constantly running.
- Have the students report their findings to the class, document the results and stick them up in the classroom and on the Green-Schools notice board. Remember to take action on your findings!

See Section 3 of the Water Resource

Questions

- Why do you think water is important?
- How do people waste water?
- Name some ways you can save water?

Go further

Carry out a Walk for Water event to raise awareness about the fact that women and children in countries around the world have to walk on average 6km to get drinking water and often it is not clean.

For further details see:

<http://www.greenschoolsireland.org/water/walking-for-water-2015.3781.html>