



GREEN-SCHOOLS STAY HOME - WATER



Idea - Mini Walk for Water

World Water Day, is a UN observance day, held on 22 March every year since 1993 and focuses on the importance of freshwater. It also celebrates water, raises awareness of the 2.2 billion people around the world living without access to safe water, provides an opportunity to learn more on water related issues, sparks discussion and inspires people to take action.

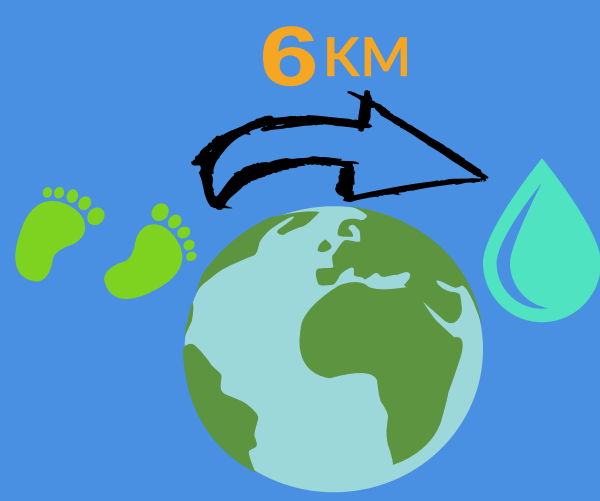
Each year a theme is chosen to provide a focus. For example:
 - 2020 "Water and Climate Change" explores how the two issues are inextricably linked.
 - 2019 "Leaving no one behind".
 - 2018 "Nature for Water"

A core focus of World Water Day is to support the achievement of Sustainable Development Goal 6: "Clean Water and Sanitation" for all by 2030.

To learn more go to:
<https://www.un.org/en/observances/water-day>
<https://www.worldwaterday.org/>
<https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/sdg6>

What can we do:
 In Ireland, most of us have access to safe drinking water and basic sanitation. Everyone in the world should have this access. By doing a Walk for Water around World Water Day or when practicable, you can raise awareness about women and children in countries around the world, who walk on average 6km a day to access water, and have to carry heavy loads of up to 20 Litres on their way back. Often the water they find is unclean or simply not there, due to drought or abstraction.

A walk for water event is also an opportunity to fundraise for water projects, helping those in need.



FACT!
EVERY DAY, WOMEN AND GIRLS SPEND 200 MILLION HOURS WALKING TO COLLECT WATER FOR THEIR FAMILIES.
ONE 6KM TRIP TO GET THIS WATER IS 15 LAPS AROUND A FOOTBALL FIELD



Mini Walk for Water

Try a Mini Walk for Water and raise awareness about the lack of clean accessible water around the world.



WHAT DO YOU NEED?

- Paper, pencil and rubber
- Colouring pencils/markers/paint
- Measuring Tape and sellotape
- Phone (to take photos and share)
- Bag
- Bottle of Water or books
- Appropriate clothing and shoes (dress for the weather) and sun cream if needed
- Energy snacks e.g. fruit, nuts etc.



WHAT TO DO...

- Map/draw your route in your home, garden or local green (if possible) - make it interesting by putting in a few obstacles along your route.
- Measure the route and work out how many laps you need to make 2 or 3 KM (or if you want, measure 5km which is close to the 6km average).
- Do up some walk for water signs for your walk, to hold, or stick on your top with tape, and if indoors, stick some signs on your window.
- Find some bags and empty containers to carry water in, in order to feel what others experience. Perhaps go for more environmentally friendly options and consider using books instead of water, and if using water, collect from water butts and empty any water used on to plants or use for artwork. You could try carry 6 litres if an adult and 3 if a child.
- Ask those in your household to take part and help out, if possible. Also, using social media, phones etc., tell family and friends outside of your household what you are doing to raise awareness about the issue of water scarcity.
- On Twitter, use the hashtag #MiniWalk4Water when tweeting and we'll share your tweets on our account.
- If looking to raise funds for water related works in communities around the world, do a 'GoFundMe' asking your friends and family for support.
- You can also send your stories and photos on to the Green-Schools office for the attention of our Communications Officer at greenschools@eeu.antisce.org
- Check the weather before your planned walk (if it is outdoors) on <https://www.met.ie/forecasts/national-forecast>
- Last but not least, carry out your walk/relay race/obstacle course, have fun and enjoy!

TIP!
YOU COULD MAKE IT A BIT OF A RACE BETWEEN EVERYONE TAKING PART AND GIVE A HANDMADE MEDAL TO THE WINNER



CONCLUSION...

Now that you have carried out a mini walk for water, did you enjoy it, and would you do it again next year? How did you find organising the mini walk for water? Was there anything you found difficult or easy? Would you recommend doing a mini walk for water to others? Would you like to learn more about walk for water? If so, you could go to one of the following websites:

- www.greenschoolsireland.org
- <https://wandelenvoorwater.nl/>
- <https://walkingforwater.dk/>
- <https://www.worldwaterday.org/>

**Thanks for taking part!
 Don't forget to share your photos with #MiniWalk4Water and with Green-Schools Twitter: @GreenSchoolsIre**