



## Lesson Plan Title: **Tooth Brush Demo**

**Concept / Topic to Teach:** Simple way to be a Water Saver

**Target audience:** Primary and Secondary

**General Goal(s):** Water Awareness in a simple everyday activity

**Specific Objectives:** To demonstrate how much water goes down the plughole if the tap is left running when brushing your teeth.

### **Seven Step Link:**

- Can be used as part of Environmental Review (As part of a Habits at Home Survey)
- Action Plan – Could be incorporated as part of Action Plan, whereby the GS Committee conducts the demo in every class.
- Action Plan – Could also be done as a live activity at home/in school where the children measure all the water the water they would use if they brush their teeth with tap running. Versus Volume of water used by turning on and off the tap while brushing.
- Informing & Involving – could be written up and included in a newsletter home/or hints and tips list for saving water.

### **Required Materials:**

Toothbrush

Beaker

3 x 2 Litre Bottles

1 Large Bucket (6 Litre vol approx)

(Optional – A flip chart with a tap Image and then a Velcro-on photo of running water)



(Optional also – An image for front of Bucket – e.g. A Water Monster!)

**Preparation Level:** Low

**Students' pre-requisite knowledge and skills:** None

**Anticipatory Set (Lead-In):** As part of a talk on water awareness and the things we use water for, I would introduce this as a follow on.

### **Step-By-Step Procedures:**

After mentioning the variety of things we use water for;

- Ask "what is one of the things we do when we get up in the morning" – eliciting the response 'Brush your teeth'!
- You could use the Flip chart if you wanted, with image of tap.
- Point to tap and ask, 'what do we do' .....Put on tooth paste, turn on tap. At this point stick the 'Running Water' Image under the tap.
- We turn on the tap, and we stand there brushing our teeth, I would say I usually/most people brush their teeth for 2 minutes.

Then ask:

- Do you know how much water goes down the plughole if we leave the tap running!
- Take out one of the 2 Litre bottles, and ask
  - 'Do you think it's this much' .
  - You could ask for hands up!
  - 'Does anyone think it's more?!' etc.



- Then when all the bottles are out, ask again ‘Do you think it’s more?’ and take out the bottle. Explain there are 2 litres in each bottle, and 6 litres in the bucket.
- Ask how much is that? How many times do we brush a day, and from there you could add up water loss for one person for a week, numbers of pupils in class etc.



This is a very simple demo and obviously varies in delivery with regard to the different age groups from Infants (describe as big bottles and a big bucket etc)

At the end you could show a small bottle 500ml or 1 Litre and that this is the amount used when you turn on and off the tap.

**Closure:** Summarise with regard to how easy it is to save water, and everyone can do it. I would always say, I’m not saying you have to do it, but you can choose to if you want to, but it’s a really good thing to do. I would sometimes say that I used to leave the tap running, and waste loads of water, but now I always turn it off. (I do!) You could also ask for a hands up for who already turns the tap off.