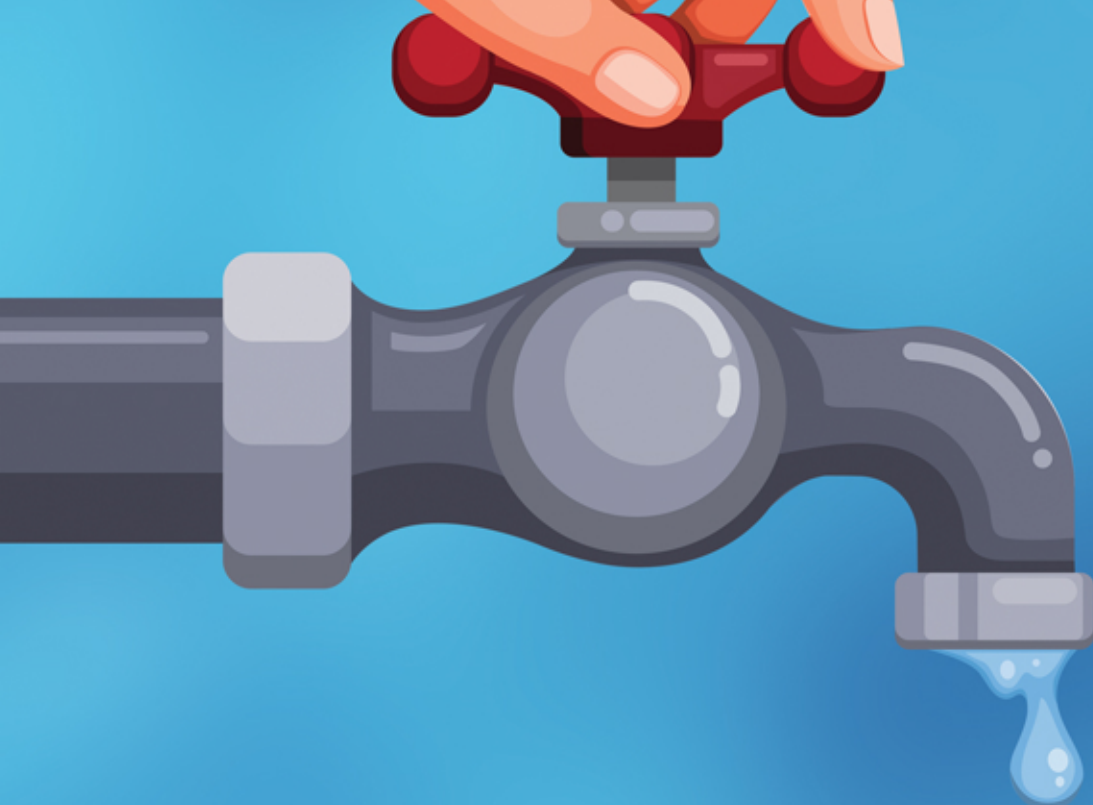


WASTING WATER



GET INVOLVED



20 MINUTES



PREPARATION
NEEDED

AIM

Water is a very important part of our world, helping to keep us alive and healthy. Are we using our water sensibility or are we wasting it? What can we do to be more responsible water users?

WHAT YOU'LL NEED

- > 3 x 2 Litre Bottles
- > 'Water Wasters v Water Savers' Cards
- > Scissors
- > Marker Pen

GET INVOLVED: WASTING WATER

THEME: PROTECTING OUR WORLD



LEADER PREPARATION

A leader will need to gather the materials required for this activity, including downloading and printing the sheets required for the 'Water Wasters v Water Savers' activity.



Download 'Water Wasters v Water Savers' Cards



GETTING INTO THE ACTIVITY

- 1 Ask the group to share all the ways they use water. i.e. drinking, showers/baths, cleaning teeth, cooking, washing clothes etc.
- 2 Explain to the group that water is one of the most important resources we have. It keeps us healthy and alive. Share some of the facts from the 'Did You Know?' box.
- 3 Sadly, we aren't always the best at using water sensibly and some people in the UK waste a lot of water. This is wasteful and during extreme weather can sometimes mean water runs low.
- 4 Use brushing your teeth as an example. Ask who runs the tap the whole time they are brushing their teeth, and who turns it off?
- 5 Show the group three empty 2L bottles. Ask them to guess how much water is used if someone leaves the tap on whilst brushing their teeth, by drawing a line on the bottle (i.e. 2 ¼ bottles etc).
- 6 Once everyone has had their guess, reveal the answer. This was actually a trick question, as the answer is far more than what we were guessing at. The real answer is we can use up to 12 litres of water if we leave the tap on. That's six of these 2L bottles! Who is surprised by just how much water can be wasted?
- 7 Explain that if we are sensible and turn the tap off whilst brushing, we only use 1L (½ of one bottle). This shows how much water we waste if we aren't being careful.
- 8 Now spend time looking at other ways we can be 'Water Savers' with our 'Water Wasters v Water Savers' activity. Place the two headings at the top of a table. Hand the 12 water use cards to the children. Read each water use card and discuss if the group think it belongs under the 'Water Saver' or 'Water Waster' heading.



DID YOU KNOW?

- **70%** of the Earth is covered in water.
- Only **3% of that water is drinkable.**
- Without water there would be **no plants, animals or humans.**
- Every day in the UK, over **3 billion litres of water is wasted.** That's enough to fill 1,200 swimming pools.
- Roughly **25%** of the water we use is wasted.

**Leaving the tap on the whole
time you brush your teeth**



**Having a quick shower
(i.e. 5 minutes)**



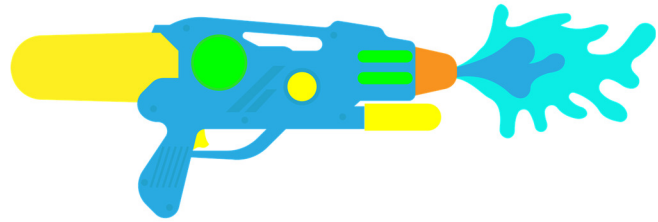
**Washing the car with a hose
every day**



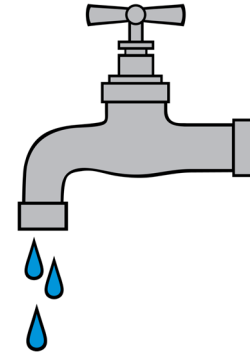
**Collecting rainwater to water
the plants in the garden**



Having less water fights in the garden in the summer



Letting taps drip and not fixing them



Using a watering can rather than a garden hose



Turning the tap off whilst you brush your teeth



Taking a long shower that uses lots of water (i.e. 10+ minutes)



Only using the washing machine when you have a full load



Running a full sink of water to wash a few plates



Waiting for the dishwasher to be full before using it



WATER SAVERS

WATER WASTERS