

How much water?

Quick guide

Age range

All

30 mins



(Study can take place over a day/week)

Indoor activity



Covers topics on

Design
Creative drawing
Numeracy

Individual activity



Task

An investigation activity to explore the amount of water we use in the home.

You will need

- Waterwise DVD
- Paper
- Pencils
- Rulers
- Calculator
- Fact cards

What to do

Watch the water use film clip in the DVD and discuss the different ways in which water is used every day (see the pie chart on reverse).

Design and make a chart to record water use in the home (see example on reverse). Use the fact cards to calculate your water use and estimate the daily consumption.

Extension activity age 10+

Multiply daily use to work out weekly, monthly and annual water use.

Time

Thirty minutes to explain, create chart and examine facts. Study can take place over a day/week. A second follow-up activity can review the charts and discuss ways to reduce the amount of water we use. Points/prizes can be awarded for those children who can identify the biggest savings.

Fun fact

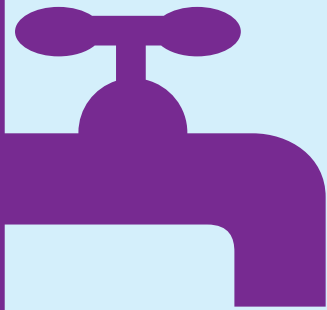
A family of four uses about 200 litres of water a day flushing the loo

Leaders' notes

By identifying which activities use the most water, children will understand that drinking water, while the smallest proportion, is the most important and where water is often wasted. Flushing the toilet takes one third of the water we use in the home yet it is treated to the same standard as drinking water. For water saving tips, see the 1,2,3 simple steps inside the pack cover.

Water use chart

	Litres per use	Numbers of uses	Litres used
Bathroom			
Flush toilet	6 litres		
Brush teeth	6 litres/minute		
Wash hands	6 litres/minute		
Shower	7-12 litres/minute		
Bath	80 litres		
Utility room			
Load of laundry	50 litres or 35 on an eco setting		
Kitchen			
Run dishwasher	15 litres/load		
Washing dishes by hand	16 litres/sinkful		



Water use in the home

The average water used is approximately 150 litres per person per day

