

Lesson Title How We Use Water

Grade Level 3-6

Time Frame 60 minutes

National Geography Standards	State/District Geography Standards
Standard 16 The changes that occur in the meaning, use, distribution and importance of resources	Standard 5 Students understand the effects of interactions between human and physical systems and the changes in meaning, use, distribution and importance of resources.

Objectives

Students discuss how water is used at school
Interview people from different areas of the school.

Essential Questions

How is water used at home and at school?
How is water wasted at home and at school?

Materials

Notebooks or clipboard with paper and pencils
Large pieces of paper
Markers

Teacher Background/Student Preparation:

Divide students into groups of three or four
Talk to kitchen, office, custodial staff and science teacher to arrange a time for them to be interviewed. Also a time when few staff are in the lounge, but when one person can be in there to guide the group assigned to the lounge.
Ask the custodian to briefly discuss usage of water indoors and outdoors.

Assessment

Students will go home and record the ways water is used in their homes.

Getting Started

1. Have a water bottle in a bag and play 20 questions to guess what is in the bag.
2. Brainstorm: Name 10 ways we use water.

Activities:

- Assign students to groups of three or four
- Send groups to the office, kitchen, a kindergarten classroom, the custodian, the science lab and the teacher's lounge.

- Students interview someone in each of these places and ask them how they use water in their area.
- Students record their findings on their paper.
- Students return to classroom.
- Give each group 10 minutes and a large piece of paper and they can write or draw a picture of their findings. Groups should title the paper with the name of the person/area they interviewed.
- Have each group present their findings to the class. (3-5 minutes)

Closure

Ask Question: How much water in the entire area is created in a year's time?
The water that is here now is all there is ever going to be.

Extending the Lesson

Discuss the hidden use of water in the classroom. It is used to make everything in the room in one way or another.

Students may explore the following Conservation websites:

<http://www.csu.org/residential/about/community/education/kids-corner/item1086.html>

http://www.ecokids.ca/pub/eco_info/topics/water/water/index.cfm

<http://www.epa.gov/ow/kids.html>

<http://www.clarkswcd.org/Kids/KidsHome.htm>



<http://wateruseitwisely.com/kids/index.php>

Game

game, The Water Family