

Importance of water

* There is water in the human body and everywhere around us. If you weigh 26 kg, there is 20 kg water in your body and only 6 kg solid substances. Our bodies use water all the time. To run the regular physiological processes, a man needs 2 to 4 litres of water per day and animals—up to 10.

* Water is a substance all the living things need, and it takes important part in all biological and vital processes. We need water to drink, to cook, to wash, to have a shower, etc. Without water plants cannot grow and give fruits.

* In industry, water is used to dissolve different substances, to cool machine engines, to prepare different useful things like soaps, shampoos, food, etc. Water is a substance used to make turbines in power stations to operate, and as a result, we have our homes lit up and warm.

* Water is necessary to put out fires, to clean the streets, etc.

* Water connects countries and continents. Different crafts and vessels ship people and goods across oceans, seas, rivers and lakes.



PRESERVE WATER!

NEXT GENERATIONS WILL NEED IT TOO!

WHY DO WE HAVE TO SAVE WATER?



At first sight, there should be an abundance of water on Earth but the facts are different. About 97,5% of water is in seas and oceans. It is too salty, which makes it unsuitable to drink, to be used for irrigation or in industry. The other 2,5% is fresh water but most of it is in glaciers and icebergs or underground water. Only 0,6% of fresh water is available for human use.



The limited amount of water makes it more precious and expensive. We all use water so let us do whatever we can to keep and preserve this natural resource.

Just imagine water disappears... No rivers, no lakes, no seas... No rain or snow... People, plants and animals die...the Earth turns into a lifeless desert!

WE WILL NOT ALLOW THIS TO HAPPEN!!!

**“How to make our own school newspaper” school club
lead by Valentina Mihneva**

Angel Kanchev Third Secondary School

23, Roza str. Varna, Bulgaria 052 303638; 052 303639

e-mail: ou_akanchev_vn@abv.bg

www.treto-ou-varna.hit.bg

EUROPEAN STUDENTS—AGENTS OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

DO WE USE WATER SENSIBLY?



Importance of water



Water is a miracle! It not only gives life, it is also a resource of beauty on Earth. We are happy to see the mountain lakes, calm down by the murmur of a brook, enjoy the beautiful shapes of the clouds, floating in the sky... And all this is due to water!

Water is the foundation of life and is a priceless natural resource. Less than 1% of water on Earth is drinkable. Each of us can do something to save it.

We all think we use water sensibly. Is this true? You can test yourself by answering a few questions. You will know if you are a good water saver by calculating your scores using the table.

1. What do you do more often?
 A Take a bath
 B Take a shower
 C You sometimes have a bath and sometimes a shower

2. When you have a bath you:
 A Put water enough to cover you
 B Fill it to the top
 C Fill in half of the bath

3. When you have a shower you stay under it for:
 A 4-5 minutes
 B 5-10 minutes
 C More than 10 minutes



4. When you brush your teeth you:
 A Leave the water running
 B Use a cup
 C Stop the water from running while brushing your teeth

5. When you handwash your clothes you:
 A Fill the sink and wash in it
 B Leave one of the faucets on
 C Leave both of the faucets on

6. Do you wait until you have a full load before you use your washing machine?
 A Always
 B Sometimes
 C I haven't got a washing machine



7. You wait for the dishwasher until you can load it full:
 A Always
 B Sometimes
 C I don't have a dishwasher

8. While you wash dishes you:
 A Leave the faucet on all the time
 B Fill in a container with water to use it
 C Put the stopper in the sink and fill it with water

9. When there is a toilet or faucet leak you:
 A Repair it immediately
 B Don't pay attention
 C Repair it after some time

10. When you wash your car you:
 A Use a bucket for the water
 B Use a hose or you go to the gas station
 C Don't have a car

11. When you water your plants in the garden you:
 A Fill in a watering can with tap water
 B Collect and use rain water
 C Water the plants using a hose



Use the table to calculate your scores

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
a	5	10	15	0	10	15	15	0	15	10	5
b	20	0	10	5	5	5	5	10	0	0	15
c	10	5	0	5	0	10	10	10	5	10	0

Over 90 scores – A good water saver

Congratulations! You are a good water saver. You should advise your friends and relatives what to do in order to start saving water.

60 to 90 scores – An average water saver

Very good. You realize that saving water is important, and you have made the first steps to become a good water saver. Our useful tips will help you become even better.

20 to 60 scores – An unreliable water saver

Thank you for your efforts but as you can see you can do a better job. We hope you will agree you can try harder. Try to follow our useful tips and you will become a better water saver.

- If you have a leak from your faucet you lose 10 or more litres of water a day.
- If there is a leak at your house, take care of it. Thus you won't lavish the priceless liquid and you will not have to pay extra money.



- You will have to pay for extra 4600 litres of water if you have a faucet leaking at about 20 drops per minute. And it rarely happens to be only 20 drops per minute. If the drops are 100 a minute you will have to pay for up to 20 cubic metres of water for a year. So what you have to do is to repair the leaking faucets as soon as possible.

You cannot always see if there is a leak. How could you know if there is a leak in the house? Before you leave the house have a look at the water meter. Look at it again at least in 2 hours. If there is a difference you should know there is a leak in your home. Try to find it and fix it.



- The biggest consumer of water is the WC. It has the biggest water consumption—about 30% of the total consumption of a household. To know if the tank leaks, you can put some paint in the water. If there is a leak, you will notice that in up to 30 minutes because water will appear in the bowl. Repair or replace the tank.



- If you leave the water running, when you don't need it, the consumption per minute will be 8-9 litres. Don't leave the tap running all the time while you brush your teeth or shave.
- To save water you can install a toilet capable of emptying half tank of water after each use.
- Soak the dishes before washing them.



Is it less expensive to wash your car using a sponge and two buckets—one of them with pure water and the other one with soap water than using the hose. If you have a well in your garden you can take water for the car from it.

- If you take a shower instead of having a bath, for a week you will save water enough to make 1000 cups of coffee.
- Wash the fruits and vegetables in a bowl but not under running water.
- Boil as much water as you need. Boiling more water means not only water consumption but also electricity consumption.

- Don't run the tap water for a long time just in order to have it cooler. You can put a bottle of water in your refrigerator.
- Load your washing machine and dishwasher to the maximum.
- There are different programmes on your washing machine and dishwasher. You can use the shortest. This way you save not only water but also electricity.
- Wash your balcony while it is raining. It is easier and you will lower your water consumption.

