20 Ways We Can Save Water

1. Learn about water and why it’s important.

Why is water so important? Learn about water from library books, your teachers, your parents or from the internet. Ask lots of questions!

2. Don’t flush the toilet.

“If it’s yellow let it mellow, if it’s brown flush it down.” If you haven’t learned this rhyme, then now’s the time (another rhyme!). What this little rhyme means is that when you’re at home, don’t flush the toilet if it’s just pee… otherwise… flush it down!*Parents:* Of course, it’s good to remind your children that when out in public, it’s good manners to flush the toilet regardless of yellow or brown. Or maybe don’t flush at night time; also saves the noise waking people.

3. Re-Wear those clothes.

We are not recommending turning your undies inside out but let your clothes get nice and dirty before actually putting them in the wash. *Parents:* Show your children how to check their clothes at night time and re-wear clothes that are still mostly clean.

4. Share your bath.

If you like to have a bath, could you share with a sibling or your parents if you are young or could you take turns (so long as the water is still clean enough)

5. Reuse your bath water for plants.

Don’t let your bath water go down the drain. Scoop it up with buckets and use it to water plants and trees.

6. Take speedy showers.

Showers use way less water than baths. Learn how to take a speedy shower. *Parents:* Teaching younger children to take showers can be tricky, but [it can be done](http://www.enviromom.com/2009/05/baby-step-teaching-kids-to-take-a-5minute-shower.html).

7 Reuse your towel.

Use the same towel more than once. Remember you should be clean after your shower and if you hang your towel to dry it will be ready and waiting.

8. Turn off the water while brushing your teeth.

Don’t let the water run while you’re brushing your teeth. Turning off the tap saves a lot of water.

9. Be a leak detective!

Train your ears to pick up the sound of dripping water and become a water saving super hero by telling a grown-up so leaks can be mended.

10. Help fill the dishwasher.

Dishwashers use less water than washing dishes by hand. Help scrape dishes and fill the dishwasher… and empty it too!

11. Have a special water cup or bottle.

Don’t get a new cup every time you feel thirsty, instead have a special water cup or bottle that you can refill throughout the day. This way there will be fewer dishes to wash.

12. Fill your cup half-way.

When you get for a cup of water, only fill it half-way to avoid wasting water.

13. Get cold water from the fridge.

Running to tap for cold water is wasteful, instead try filling a jug with water and cool it in the fridge.

14. Don’t throw out old water.

Don’t waste old water from cups and water bottles by pouring it down the drain. Instead, use it to water plants (inside or outside).

15. Wash your apple in a bowl of water.

Instead of washing your fruit and vegetables under running water use a container or bowl filled with water instead. When you’re done use the water for plants.

16. Grow your own food.

Get your parents to stop watering the lawn and use that water for growing things you can eat instead. Growing your own food is a lot of fun and a better way to use water. If your grass goes a bit brown in hot, dry weather don’t worry, it is very good at “re-greening” itself when it dose rain.

17. Give up the water guns.

Water guns are fun but they waste water. Or could you use clean collected rain water?

18. Collect rain water.

With the help of a parent, set up a rain water barrel to catch rain water. Plants love rain water.

19. Wash your bike with a bucket and rag.

Save water by using a bucket and a rag to wash your bike instead of spraying it with a bunch of water with the hose.

20. Remember that YOU are a water saver!

Some of these ideas will not be right for you, that’s OK.

Some of these ideas you will be able to do.

You may have good ideas of your own.

Share these ideas with everyone so we can all save water