

WATER CONSERVATION FACTS

Did you know that only about 0.4% of the water on Earth is available for drinking? Water **conservation** is a good and easy way to take care of our water supply. Conservation means using water wisely and not wasting it. Here are some ways you can conserve water.

Whether washing your hands for 20 seconds or **brushing** your teeth for two minutes, you don't have to keep the **faucet** running. Save 200 gallons of water in a month by turning off the tap while you scrub.

Another place to save water is in the **laundry** room. Save energy by **washing** clothes in cold water, and conserve water by only running the washer with full loads.

Did you know it takes less water to run a full **dishwasher** than to wash dishes by hand in the sink? Save more water by scraping plates into the trash rather than rinsing them before loading the dishwasher.

Have a parent help you take the top off the tank at the back of the **toilet**. Place a few drops of food coloring in the tank. If the color shows up in the bowl, you might need a new **flapper**. Don't forget to flush after!

While it might be more fun to splash in a warm bath, it takes 70 gallons of water to fill a tub but only 10 to 13 gallons for a five minute **shower**. Ask Mom and Dad to install WaterSense labeled showerheads and toilets. They work more efficiently, **saving** water and you won't notice a difference in flow!

Watering the yard is a great way to get outside in the fresh air. Just don't water in the middle of the day when temperatures are highest, or the sun will **evaporate** water before it reaches your plants.

Who's the water saver? Who's the water waster?

First read the Water Conservation Facts on the left side of this page. Then look at each picture carefully. Put an **X** in each white circle for water wasters. Put a **✓** in each white circle for water savers. Check your answers on the back to see how many you got right.

Aiden turns off the tap while brushing.



Braylen's parents installed a new WaterSense toilet.



Gabriella only runs the dishwasher when it's full.



Starr waters the plants in the middle of the day.



Wren runs the tap while brushing.



Marcellus runs the washer with a full load.



Hanna waters the flowers early in the morning.



Mateo likes a warm bath with bubbles.



Jada just learned about Water Conservation in her science class. She tells her friends Chloe, Finn and Steven about it and challenges them to do this word search puzzle. You can try it too! In the Water Conservation story on the left side of the previous page, look for 12 words highlighted in bold red. See if you can find all 12 in the puzzle below. Words can be horizontal, vertical or diagonal.

K S F Z H K Z U K C M C
 E A L K O D E S E O G D
 V V A W A T E R I N G E
 N I P F T Z N B I S U V
 G N P I H I N H C E H A
 U G E J W O S R P R U P
 C D R J S U S D P V G O
 J I Z Q R Y X A W A N R
 S S T B Y S W H A T I A
 L H E H R C S H K I H T
 F W L C D I H W D O S E
 A A I G N Z O S K N A Z
 U S O P U O W M T X W C
 C H T H A Q E I S M J T
 E E Y E L S R H N Y B K
 T R V W T J M N D M A E

Answers to the Water Saver/Water Waster Challenge

✓ Water Savers: Aiden, Gabriella, Braylen, Hanna, Marcellus

✗ Water Wasters: Starr, Mateo, Wren

How many did you get right? All 8 = Water Wizard! 7 = Conservation Commander, 6 = Conservation Captain, 5 = Water Watcher, 4 or less = Back to school - keep learning. You'll do better next time.

