

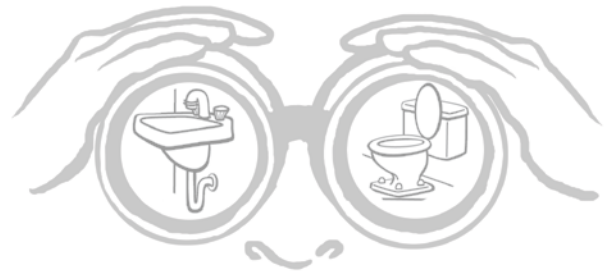
Unit 2



Agent Name _____

(for Water Agents of the W.B.I.)

Water Watchers



The Stakeout

DIRECTIONS

Your mission, Water Agent, is to observe water usage and waste in your house without being noticed. Watch and document your family members' water use by answering the questions below. If you don't know the answer, estimate or ask a parent for help.

Bathroom

How many showers were taken in your household today? _____

How long were the showers (in minutes)? _____

Do you have low flow showerheads (low flow showerheads use 2.5 gal/minute vs. 5 gal/minute)? _____

How many baths were taken? _____

How many toilet flushes were there today? _____

Do you have low flow toilets (low flow toilets use 1.6 gal or less/flush vs. 2 - 5 gal/flush)? _____

Do family members let the water run when they brush their teeth, wash their face, shave? _____

Kitchen

Do family members let the water run while washing dishes by hand? _____

How many times does your family run the dishwasher each week? _____

Is the dishwasher full when it runs? _____

Does your family run the water until it gets cold to get a glass of water? _____

Laundry

How many loads of laundry are done each week? _____

Are the loads of laundry usually full? _____

Outside

How many times is your lawn watered each week? _____

How many minutes is the lawn watered per watering? _____

Is the lawn watered in the early morning or evening to avoid evaporation from mid-day heat? _____

Estimate the number of minutes water is used outdoors for purposes other than lawn watering (wash cars, rinse outdoor furniture and clean equipment) each week. _____

Does your family use mulch to reduce water evaporation? _____



Water Watchers

Run vs. Rinse

Directions

Many of us let the water run while we are doing activities such as brushing our teeth and washing our hands. This uses a lot more water than we actually need. Your mission, Water Agent, is to investigate how much water is used to brush teeth with the water running (Running method) and then how much water is used to brush teeth if the water is turned off while brushing and is only turned on for rinsing (Rinsing method). Then, calculate how much water you could save by using the Rinsing method.

Materials needed:

Family member or friend

Bucket or container

8 oz measuring cup

RUNNING METHOD

Have a family member or friend brush their teeth with the water continually running. While the water is running, collect the water and pour it in the container. Repeat this action until they are done brushing. Once the teeth brushing is complete, use your measuring cup to measure and report how many 8 oz cups were collected in the container.

_____ cups of water were used in the **Running** method.

RINSING METHOD

Have another family member or friend (or the same one for really clean teeth) brush their teeth using the water only to rinse their toothbrush or their mouth. Collect the water used for this method as well. After this teeth brushing is complete, use your measuring cup to measure and report how many 8 oz cups were used.

_____ cups of water were used in the **Rinsing** method.

RUN vs. RINSE

Calculate how much water is saved when the Rinsing method is used instead of the Running method.



_____ cups of water used in the **Running** method

Minus

-



_____ cups of water used in the **Rinse** method

Equals

=

_____ cups of water **SAVED!**