

# What's Your H<sub>2</sub>O IQ?

Are you a water saver? We don't mean the kind that requires joining the Coast Guard! We're talking about people who only use the water they need, and leave the rest for the fish. Sound difficult? Actually, you may already be doing more than you think! Answer the following questions and see how you "measure up" as a water saver.

## When I brush my teeth I...

- Only turn the water on to wet my brush and rinse.
- Leave the water running the whole time.
- I never brush my teeth; I prefer "Pearly Browns."



## I use the toilet for...

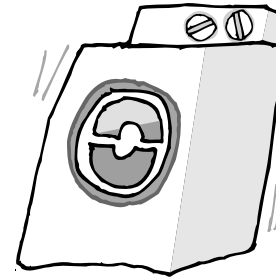
- The stuff you can't do unless you unzip.
- Shooting baskets with tissue.
- My dog's water dish; he loves the extra flavor.

## For me, the shower is...

- A quick dip; I have better things to do than wrinkle.
- Where I can take time to improve my yodeling skills.
- What? Shower and lose my signature scent?

## When my parent asks me to do the laundry I...

- Make sure there's a full load, before starting the washer.
- Know the fewer things I wash, the fewer I'll have to fold.
- Fold the stuff in the hamper and spray it with Lysol™ - so far they haven't noticed.



## During the day I quench my thirst with...

- Water that was chilled in the refrigerator.
- Cold water I obtained by letting the tap run until cool.
- A Super-big, Super-sugary, and Super-caffeinated Super-sipper!

## When I can't finish a glass of water I...

- Use it to water the plants.
- Dump it down the drain.
- Put my grandpa's teeth back where I found them; it was the only glass I could find!

## If you answered...

- Mostly "a's":** You're a Water Super Saver! You know water is vital for life, but you don't waste it either.
- Mostly "b's":** Remember — there's a limited amount of water available for use and you may be using more than your share. See if you can modify a habit or two and turn your "b's" into "a's."
- Mostly "c's":** You may be saving water, but you're lacking serious personal hygiene. It's okay to USE water, just use it wisely!

# TIPS FOR TAPS

Fill in the blanks below with the following words and discover what you can do to save water:

Brushing  
Faucets  
Leaks  
Shut-off

Broom  
Five  
Mulch  
Sprinklers

Drip  
Food Coloring  
Refrigerator  
Teeth

Driveway  
Full  
Shorter  
Toilet

Evaporation  
Hose  
Sidewalk  
Trash Can

1. Water during the cool part of the day to avoid \_\_\_\_\_.
2. Instead of using a \_\_\_\_\_ to clean off your sidewalk or driveway, use a \_\_\_\_\_.
3. Take a \_\_\_\_\_ shower in \_\_\_\_\_ minutes or less.
4. Run the dishwasher and washing machine with \_\_\_\_\_ loads only.
5. When washing your car, use a hose with a \_\_\_\_\_ nozzle.
6. Put a layer of \_\_\_\_\_ around trees and plants to slow evaporation of moisture and discourage weed growth.
7. Position your \_\_\_\_\_ so water lands on the lawn or garden, not on your \_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_.
8. Check \_\_\_\_\_ and pipes for \_\_\_\_\_. Even the smallest \_\_\_\_\_ from a worn washer can waste 20 or more gallons a day.
9. Check your \_\_\_\_\_ for leaks by putting a little \_\_\_\_\_ in your toilet tank. If, without flushing, the color begins to appear in the bowl, you have a leak that should be repaired immediately.
10. Turn off the water while \_\_\_\_\_ your \_\_\_\_\_. Just wet your brush and fill a glass for mouth rinsing.
11. Don't use your toilet as a \_\_\_\_\_. Dead bugs and used facial tissue should go in a wastebasket.
12. Keep a bottle of cold water in the \_\_\_\_\_ for drinking, instead of letting the tap run until cold.

## Transmission System

A device used for recording the amount of water passing through a pipe

## Distribution System

Water that is fit for consumption

## Groundwater

A facility for cleaning and treating fresh water for drinking

## Water Conservation

Using up goods and services

## Precipitation

Large water pipes over 18" in diameter and pumps used to distribute drinking water from the source to the community

## Consumption

Water underground, such as in wells and aquifers

## Potable Water

The act of destroying harmful microorganisms

## Treatment Plant

Pipes; valves to control water flow; and fire hydrants, tanks and reservoirs used in drinking water systems, which deliver water to homes

## Water Meter

## Disinfection

Saving, not wasting, water

Water vapor falling from the atmosphere as rain, hail, sleet or snow



# Water Vocabulary

**Aquifer** – an underground layer of rock, soil or sediment that is filled or saturated with water

**Condensation** – water changing from a gas to a liquid

**Conduit** – a pipe for transporting fluids, such as water

**Conservation** – saving, not wasting

**Consumption** – using up goods or services

**Contamination** – unfit for use; pollution

**Dam** – a structure built to hold back a flow of water

**Disinfection** – the act of destroying harmful microorganisms

**Distribution System** – pipes; valves to control water flow; and fire hydrants, tanks and reservoirs used in drinking water systems which deliver water to homes

**Drought** – a long period of dry weather without rain

**Evaporation** – the changing of water from a liquid to a vapor and rising into the air

**Groundwater** – water underground, such as in wells and aquifers

**Hydrant** – an upright pipe with a spout or nozzle for drawing water from a water main, installed for fire suppression

**Intake** – an opening which allows water into a conduit

**Irrigation** – supplying water to dry land by way of ditches, pipes or streams

**Pipes** – tubes that convey fluid such as water. Water pipe material can be plastic, copper, ductile or cast iron, or concrete cylinder

**Potable Water** – water that is fit for drinking

**Precipitation** – water vapor falling from the atmosphere as rain, hail, sleet or snow

**Pump** – a machine that assists the flow of water in pipes; used to boost water to a higher elevation

**Reservoir** – a tank, pond or lake where water is collected and stored until needed

**Source** – a body of water such as a spring or lake that creates a primary water supply

**Surface Water** – precipitation that does not soak into the ground or return quickly to the atmosphere. Surface water can be a stream, lake, river, pond, wetland, ocean or reservoir

**Transmission System** – large water pipes over 18" in diameter and pumps used to distribute drinking water from the source to the community

**Treatment Plant** – a facility for cleaning and treating fresh water for drinking

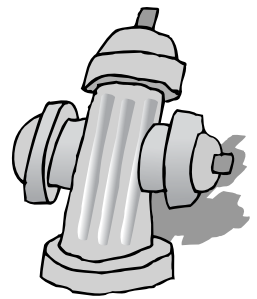
**Valve** – a device that controls the flow of water through a pipe by opening, closing or obstructing the passageway

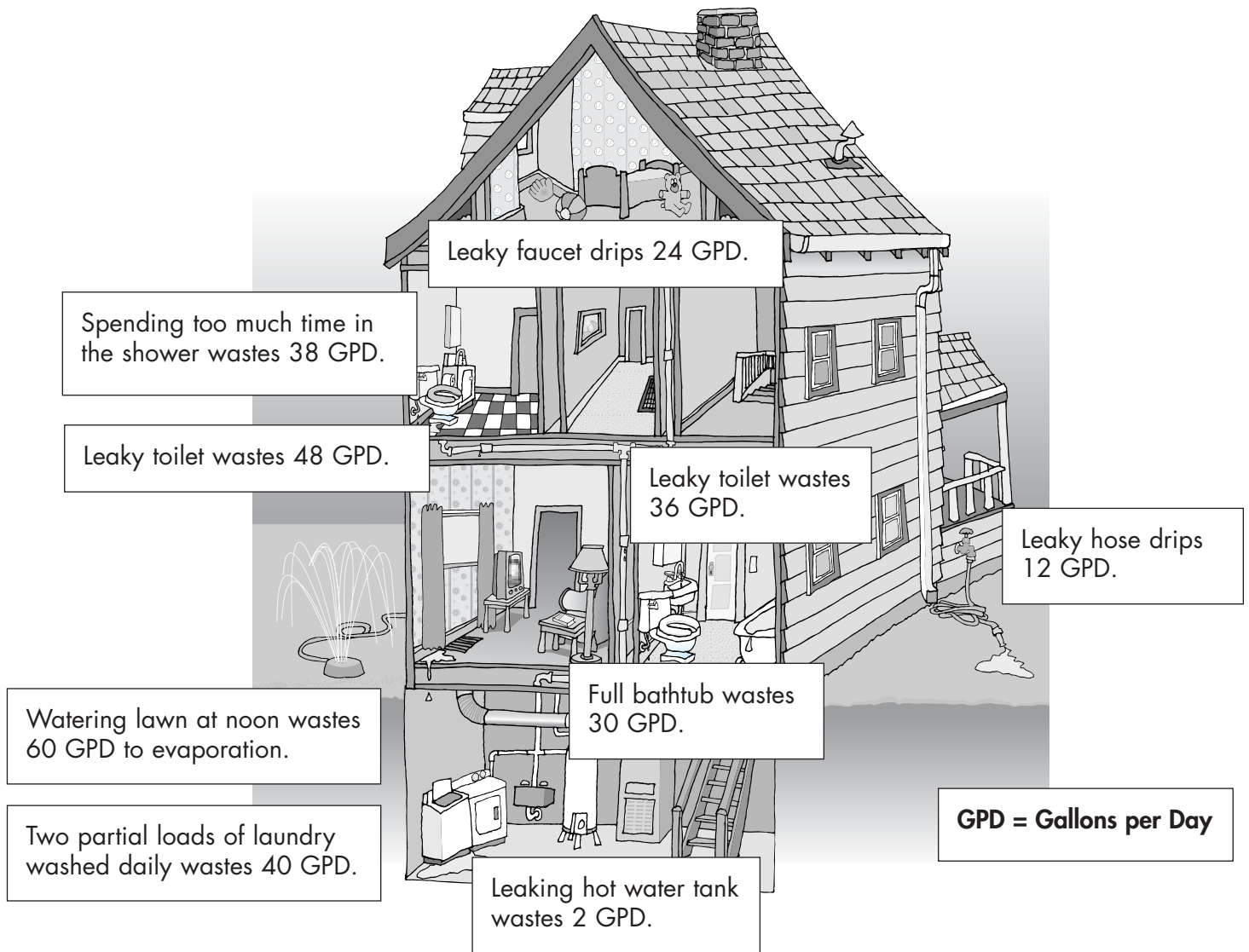
**Water Cycle** – often called the hydrologic cycle; the circulation of water from the sky to the earth and back which includes precipitation, transpiration and evaporation

**Water Meter** – a device used for recording the amount of water passing through a pipe

**Water System** – a river and all its branches; or a series of pipes, storage tanks, pumps, fire hydrants connected together to deliver water

**Watershed** – an area of land from which water drains to a single water body like a river





Using the picture of "your house" above, how many different ways can you find to save 200 gallons per day, just by fixing items that are causing waste?

If 100 gallons of water costs \$.20, how much money will you save per day?

How much money will you save per month? (*Hint: Most months have 31 days.*)

How much money will you save per year? (*Hint: There are 365 days in a year.*)

You've really helped your parents out by saving them water and money. They've promised to let you use the money they've saved on their water bill to buy the newest Chart-topping CD, "Outa Sync." How long will it take you to save the \$20 needed to purchase the CD?

# Word Search

Circle, in the puzzle below, the water words listed on the left .

- AQUIFER
- CONDENSATION
- CONDUIT
- CONSERVATION
- CONSUMPTION
- CONTAMINATION
- DAM
- DISINFECTION
- DISTRIBUTION
- DROUGHT
- EVAPORATION
- GROUNDWATER
- HYDRANT
- INTAKE
- IRRIGATION
- PIPES
- POTABLE
- PRECIPITATION
- PUMP
- RESERVOIR
- SOURCE
- SURFACE WATER
- TRANSMISSION
- TREATMENT PLANT
- VALVE
- WATER CYCLE
- WATER METER
- WATER SYSTEM
- WATERSHED

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

Moving across the rows from left to right, use the remaining uncircled letters to fill in the blanks below and reveal the water conservation message.

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

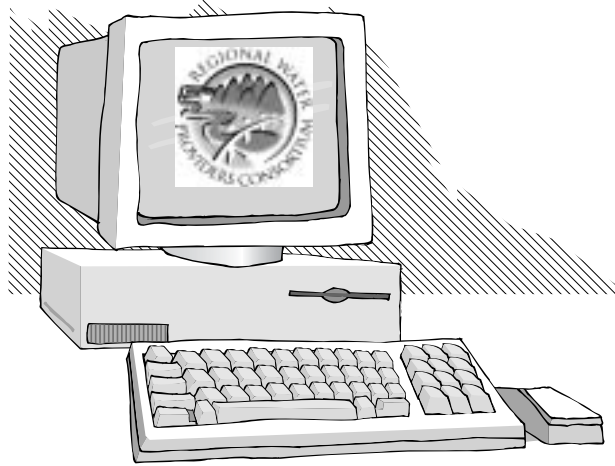
\_\_\_\_\_

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# Want More Resources?

## Waterful Web Sites

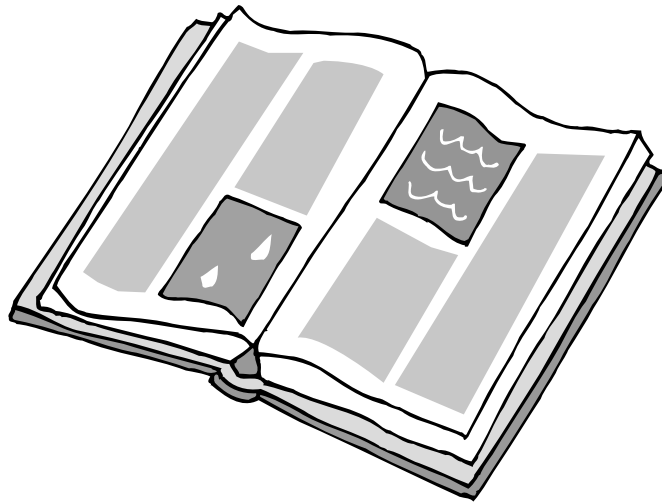


[www.conserveh2o.org](http://www.conserveh2o.org)  
[www.waterdata.com/student.htm](http://www.waterdata.com/student.htm)  
[www.waterwiser.org](http://www.waterwiser.org)

[www.awwa.org](http://www.awwa.org)  
[www.getwise.org](http://www.getwise.org)  
[www.ecokidsonline.com](http://www.ecokidsonline.com)  
<http://wri.wisc.edu/library/WaterCurricula>  
[www1.umn.edu/bellmuse/mnideals/watershed/watershed2.html](http://www1.umn.edu/bellmuse/mnideals/watershed/watershed2.html)

[www.epa.gov/watrhome](http://www.epa.gov/watrhome)  
<http://ga.water.usgs.gov/edu>  
[www.groundwater.org](http://www.groundwater.org)

## Books to Wet Your Whistle



*A Drop of Water: A Book of Science and Wonder*, Walter Wick, Scholastic Inc., 1997

*The Everything Kids' Science Experiments Book*, Adams Media Corp., 2001

*The Stream Team on Patrol*, John Shepard, ABDO Publishing, 1993

*Water: The Drop of Life*, Peter Swanson, Creative Publishing International, 2001

*Science in the Water*, World Book, Inc., 1999

*Common Ground: The Water, Earth and Air We Share*, Molly Bang, Scholastic, Inc., 1997

*The Rainstick, A Fable*, Sandra C. Robinson, Falcon Press Publishing Co., 1994

*Water for the World*, Franklyn M. Branley, Harper Collins Books, 1992

*Water: A Thematic Unit*, David Jefferis, Teacher Created Materials, Inc., 1999

*Where the River Begins*, Thomas Locker, Penguin Putnam Books, 1993

*Water Up, Water Down: The Hydrologic Cycle*, Sally M. Walker, Lerner Publishing, 1992

*A Drop Around the World*, Barbara S. McKinney, Dawn Publications, 1998

*Water Squeeze*, Mary O'Neil, Troll Communications, 1991

*The Magic School Bus at the Waterworks*, Joanna Cole, Scholastic, Inc., 1990