

EVERY DROP COUNTS

SUGGESTIONS AND VARIATIONS (PLT ACTIVITY 38, PAGE 163)



MATERIALS NEEDED

1. Inflatable globe (You can find them on: orientaltrading.com)

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Explain that students will throw the inflatable globe into the air for other students to catch.
2. Explain that every time the globe is caught, the student should state if their right thumb lands on land or water.
3. Record land vs. water on a paper or board to compare how many times each happens.
4. Discuss with students the difference in number of times their thumbs landed on land and the number of times on water.

CONNECTIONS

Make connections to nature, based on your results from the activity:

- **Ask students: How much of the Earth's water is able to be used?** Only about 0.003% of the Earth's water is available for use.
- **Why is so little of the Earth's water able to be used?** The rest is saltwater, polar ice caps and glaciers or located too deep to extract from the ground.

VARIATION

Use this activity to show how much water you can save daily:

1. Ask for 4 volunteers. Two to brush their teeth and two to pour water.
2. Give 2 of them toothbrushes/toothpaste (can be purchased at Dollar store or some dentists will donate).
3. Have one pour water into the bucket at a constant stream while volunteer brushes teeth over the bucket.
4. Have one "turn off" the water when not needed.
5. Have entire group sing Twinkle Twinkle Little Star or other familiar song during the brushing so they know when to stop. (Amount of water poured from gallon jugs should be significantly different).

QUESTIONS TO ASK

1. How do human activities affect the Earth's water quality?
2. How does the Earth's water affect human activities?
3. How much water do you estimate your family uses each day?
4. How can/do you conserve water?

ALL ABOUT THE EARTH'S WATER

H2O Facts

Water covers 70.9% of the planet's surface

It takes 2,641 gallons of water to make a pair of jeans

The United States uses an average of 408 billion gallons of water each day

The Great Lakes contain six quadrillion gallons of water combined

The average human body is made of 50 to 65 percent water

Worldwide, polluted water is estimated to affect the health of about 1.2 billion people and contribute to the death of 15 million children under five every year

