

The Water Guardians program

Always learning for a thriving Tasmania

At home activity pack



Dear parents and carers,

We are excited to share with you what your child has learned during our Water Guardians water literacy program at school!

In this pack, you'll find simple messages about saving water, ways to talk with your child about what they've learned, and some fun activities to do together at home.

What have we learned?

In our program, we learned how important water is, and what we can do to look after it in our environment and at home. Here are the key messages your child has picked up:

1. The importance of clean, accessible fresh water

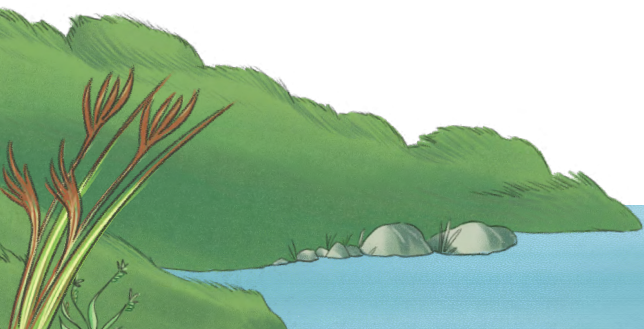
Clean, fresh water is essential, but lower water levels harm wildlife and water quality, even without pollution. We must protect and conserve our limited water supply so people and animals can thrive.

2. The effect of climate change on the water cycle

Understanding the water cycle is important because climate change is disrupting it, affecting water supply and quality. To protect our water, we need to reduce the impact of climate change and adopt eco-friendly habits.

3. Improving water quality is our responsibility

Pollution harms nature, but we can work together to make a difference. We learned how pollution reaches our waterways, and the steps to stop or reduce it like planting native plants around the banks of waterways to stop erosion, organising clean-up days, and securing recycling bins.



Conversation starters

Keep the conversation flowing at home:



How can we save water at home?

Encourage your child to brainstorm ideas for what your family can do to use less water, and why saving water matters.

Why is the water cycle important?

Discuss how the water cycle affects everything from rainfall to clean water supply, and how extreme changes in the weather impact the environment and our daily lives.

Why is keeping our water sources clean so important?

Talk about how pollution harms water quality, wildlife, and the environment, and discuss ways everyone can help protect our rivers, lakes, and oceans.

Fresh water is made and moved around the Earth thanks to the water cycle.

Earth is the only planet with liquid water.

Most water on Earth (97 per cent) is salty, only a very small amount is fresh.



Can you share any cool facts you learned about water?

Encourage your child to share fun facts or stories from the program, helping them feel proud of their knowledge about water quality and conservation.

By talking about water and doing activities together you are helping to reinforce the valuable lessons they've learned about water. Together, we can make a difference in protecting the water in Tasmania for our future generations!

If you have any questions or would like to share your water literacy activity experiences, please feel free to reach out by emailing communityprograms@taswater.com.au or to find out more about your water please visit www.taswater.com.au

Activity 1

Can you be a creek friend?

A creek friend is someone who cares for their local creek by keeping it clean and safe for plants and animals. You can help protect the creek and make sure it stays healthy for everyone to enjoy!

Your mission

1. Design your creek friends.

Create your own characters! Draw or colour your own creek friends and give them names.

2. Display your creek friends:

Find a special spot in your home or yard to display your creek friends. Here are some fun ideas:

On your letterbox: To remind everyone in your community to keep litter away from the creek.

In your garden: To encourage planting native plants that help prevent soil erosion.

By your front door: As a reminder to always pick up litter when you go for walks.

Start a creek care routine: Decide on one action you can take each week to help your local creek, like organising a clean-up day with friends, making sure loops like milk carton rings are cut before they go in the rubbish, or checking for items that might wash into the creek through stormwater pipes during rain.

Activity 2

Water cycle yoga

Have you ever tried water cycle yoga? Why not incorporate movement into your learning and share what you know with your family. Go online and search 'Water cycle yoga' on YouTube. Our favourite sequence is with Courtnei Giles!



Activity 3

Word search

Circle the words hidden in the grid below. Words can be ➡ forwards, ⬅ backwards, ↗ ↘ diagonal, ⬆ ⬇ vertical and ↔ horizontal!

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

precipitation
condensation
infiltration
evaporation
climate change
conservation
transpiration
pollution
finite
run off
restore
protect
~~recycle~~
stormwater
erosion

Activity 4

Water cycle in a jar

Create a mini-terrarium to observe the water cycle! You'll see water evaporate from the soil and plants, forming droplets that eventually fall like rain.

Steps

1. Add rocks and soil

Layer larger rocks at the bottom of a glass jar for drainage, then add a thin layer of potting soil.

2. Add more soil and plants

Add more soil over the rocks and plant your chosen moisture-loving plants. Ensure the soil is slightly damp to prevent over-watering.

3. Choose the right plants

Select small, moisture-loving plants like ferns or mosses that fit comfortably in the jar.

4. Plant carefully

Use tools like spoons or chopsticks for narrow openings. Arrange plants naturally for depth and perspective.

6. Add finishing touches

Top with moss and small stones, then lightly spray with water—avoid overwatering!

5. Seal and place

Close the jar with a lid that has airflow holes. Position it in a spot with natural light, avoiding direct sunlight.

The rocks help keep the soil in place and help drain excess water away from the roots of your plants to avoid rotting.



You can select from a wide range of plants that provide a range of interesting characteristics and habits such as coloured leaves, leaf texture, ground covers, etc.



Activity 5

Five senses treasure hunt

The next time you are near a local waterway, complete this treasure hunt. How many items can you tick off?



I felt the
water with my
fingertips

☐

I saw people
enjoying themselves
near the water

☐

I trod carefully
and stuck to the
footpath

☐

I placed my
rubbish in the bin

☐

I smelt flowers

☐

I could name the
waterway I visited

☐

I heard the sound
of birds

☐

I heard water
flowing

☐

I saw fish in the
water

☐

Answer

Word search

