

World Water Day

75% of the Earth's surface is covered by water. However, not all water is the same and not all water is safe to drink. Water comes in many forms and is found in different places on Earth. Types of water include: salt water (found in the ocean or in the sea), freshwater, lake or river water, water found in the atmosphere and water from ice caps and glaciers. Freshwater is essential to supporting life but only comprises 2.5% of the Earth's water. Therefore, it is vitally important for humans, as well as animals and other creatures, that freshwater is used sensibly and fairly to ensure that life can be sustained.



What is World Water Day?

World Water Day is on the 22nd March and the theme changes every year. The theme for World Water Day 2019 is 'Leave No One Behind'. This is based on the Sustainable Development Goal 6, set out by the United Nations, which aims to ensure that everyone in the world has access to clean water by 2030.

In the western world, clean water and good sanitation is often taken for granted. Most taps provide safe drinking water and the majority of private bathrooms and public toilets have hand washing facilities available for use. However, billions of people around the world still live without access to safe water or sanitation facilities. Vulnerable groups such as refugees, disabled people and indigenous people often face challenges and even discrimination when trying to reach safe, clean water. This is unacceptable as access to drinking water is a human right and is crucial in maintaining and promoting human health.

Interesting Fact

Around 60% of the human body is made up of water and every cell and organ needs it to function properly.

What Are the Dangers of Drinking Contaminated Water?

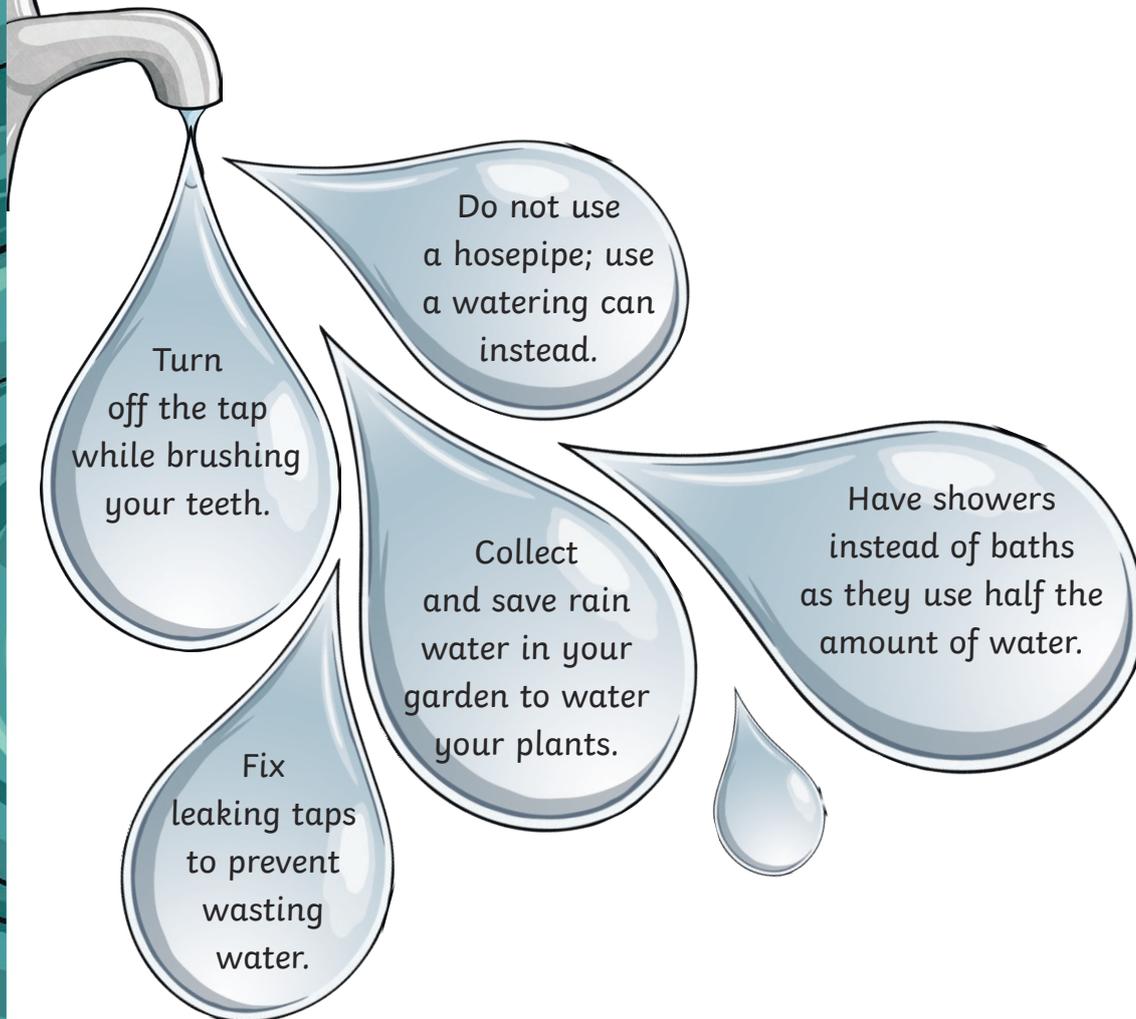
Drinking dirty, contaminated water can cause many types of diseases, some of which cause millions of deaths every year. The following diseases are all associated with drinking dirty water:

- cholera
- typhoid
- dysentery
- diarrhoea
- hepatitis E



How Can We All Help?

Clean water is not an endless resource and we can all do more to cut down on how much we use every day. By following some of the guidelines below, we can all be more 'Water Wise':



For World Water Day 2019, the UN are organising an online challenge to raise awareness amongst young people about human rights to water and sanitation. Organisers want anyone between the ages of 15 and 24 to submit work and content based on this year's theme; Leave No One Behind.

Did You Know...?

In 2015, only 27% of the population of developing countries had basic handwashing facilities and 29% of the world's population did not have safe drinking water supplies.

Questions

1. What type of water is found in the ocean or sea? Tick **one**.

- freshwater
- contaminated water
- salt water
- cold water

2. **Find** and **copy** a word in the first paragraph that means **maintained**.

3. Why is it important that freshwater is used sensibly and not wasted?
Explain your answer fully.

4. What is the theme for World Water Day 2019?

5. Do you think that this is a good title for the theme of World Water Day 2019? Explain your answer fully.

6. Which of the following is **NOT** a disease associated with drinking dirty water? Tick **one**.

- dysentery
- hepatitis E
- malaria
- cholera

7. Give **two** ways in which people can be more 'Water Wise'.

1. _____

2. _____

8. Why do you think the UN are trying to raise awareness about the human right to clean water amongst young people in particular? Explain your answer fully.

Answers

1. What type of water is found in the ocean or sea? Tick **one**.

- freshwater
- contaminated water
- salt water**
- cold water

2. **Find** and **copy** a word in the first paragraph that means **maintained**.

sustained

3. Why is it important that freshwater is used sensibly and not wasted?
Explain your answer fully.

Pupil's own response, such as: It is important that freshwater is used sensibly and not wasted because it is essential for all living things so we need to make sure that there is enough for everyone. It only makes up 2.5% of the Earth's water; the other water is not drinkable.

4. What is the theme for World Water Day 2019?

The theme for World Water Day 2019 is 'Leave No One Behind'.

5. Do you think that this is a good title for the theme of World Water Day 2019? Explain your answer fully.

Pupil's own response, such as: I think that 'Leave No One Behind' is a good theme because it means that as the world continues to grow and develop, it is important to make sure that everyone is cared for and supported and treated equally.

6. Which of the following is **NOT** a disease associated with drinking dirty water? Tick **one**.

- dysentery
- hepatitis E
- malaria**
- cholera

7. Give **two** ways in which people can be more 'Water Wise'.

Accept any two of the following:

- **Using a watering can instead of a hosepipe.**
- **Having showers instead of baths.**
- **Fix leaking taps to prevent wasted water.**
- **Turn off the tap while brushing your teeth.**
- **Collect rain water and use it to water the plants.**

8. Why do you think the UN are trying to raise awareness about the human right to clean water amongst young people in particular? Explain your answer fully.

Pupil's own response, such as: I think that the UN are focusing on raising awareness amongst young people in particular because they are the future and the ones who can continue to make a positive change in the world. Young people might also take it for granted that they can drink clean water whenever they want and can wash their hands easily after visiting the bathroom.

World Water Day

Water is a precious resource. Although 75% of the Earth's surface is covered by water, not all of it is safe to drink. There are various forms of water on Earth and it is found in different places. Salt water is found in the ocean or in the sea, freshwater is mostly found in lakes or rivers and water is also present in the atmosphere and in ice caps and glaciers. Freshwater is essential to supporting life but only comprises 2.5% of the Earth's water. Therefore, it is vitally important for humans and all living creatures on Earth, that freshwater is used sensibly and fairly to ensure that life can be sustained.



World Water Day

Every year, on the 22nd March, World Water Day focuses our attention on the importance of water across the world. The theme for World Water Day 2019 is 'Leave No One Behind' and is based on the Sustainable Development Goal 6, set out by the UN (United Nations). This goal aims to ensure that by 2030, everyone in the world will have access to clean drinking water and good sanitation facilities regardless of race or gender.

The United Nations (UN) is an international organisation which was founded in 1945 after the Second World War. Fifty-one countries joined together in order to maintain peace and security, to develop friendly relationships between nations and to improve living standards for all. In 1948, the UN adopted the Universal Declaration of Human Rights in which it states that 'everyone has the right to a standard of living adequate for the health and well-being of himself and of his family'.

Interesting Fact

Around 60% of the human body is made up of water and every cell and organ needs it to function properly. As a result, humans can only survive for a few days at most without fresh, clean drinking water as they need it to replace what is lost naturally through sweating and urinating.

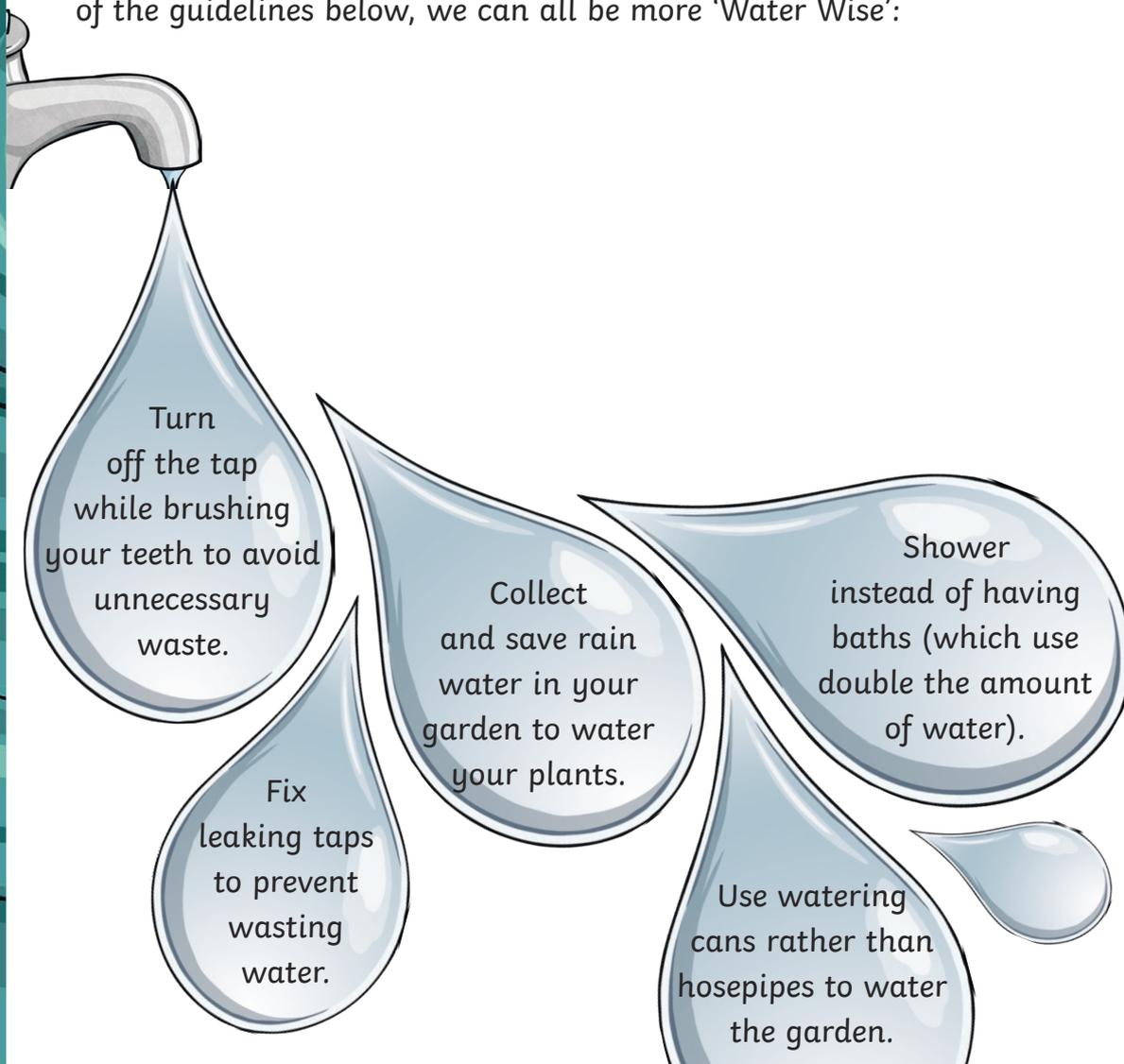
Clean water and good sanitation is often taken for granted by those living in developed countries, especially in western countries such as the UK and Europe. Safe drinking water is available at the turn of a tap and toilet and sanitary facilities are, more often than not, accessible and hygienic. Sadly, this is not the case for billions of people around the world who still live without access to safe water or sanitation facilities. Vulnerable groups such as women, refugees, disabled and indigenous people often face challenges and even discrimination when trying to reach safe, clean water. This is unacceptable.

Waterborne Diseases

Consuming dirty, contaminated water can cause many types of diseases, some of which cause millions of deaths every year around the world. Diseases such as cholera, typhoid, dysentery, diarrhoea and hepatitis E are all waterborne diseases and are passed on by drinking or bathing in contaminated water.

Be Water Wise

The population in the UK is growing every year and amazingly, the south-east of England has less water available per person than the desert states of Syria and Sudan. Although the UK receives a large amount of rainfall, there are limited natural and humanly-constructed methods for storing water and this means that there is only a small amount of water available per person in the UK. Clean water is not an endless resource and it is essential that we all do more to cut down on how much we use and waste every day. By following some of the guidelines below, we can all be more 'Water Wise':



Questions

1. Look at the opening paragraph. **Find** and **copy** one word used to show that water is a valuable and important resource?

2. What is UN short for? Tick **one**.

- Universal Nations
 United Nations
 Unified Nations
 United Nationalities

3. What is significant about the year 2030? Explain your answer fully.

4. When was the UN founded? Tick **one**.

- 1930
 1948
 1945
 2030

5. In your own words, explain why the UN was started.

6. Fill in the missing words.

Safe drinking water is available at the turn of a tap and toilet and _____ facilities are more often than not, accessible and _____.

7. Name **two** ways in which you can catch a waterborne disease.

1. _____

2. _____

8. Explain why a human can only survive for a few days without water.

9. Why is it essential that people in the UK need to be more 'Water Wise'? Explain your answer fully and refer to the text.

Answers

1. Look at the opening paragraph. **Find** and **copy** one word used to show that water is a valuable and important resource?

precious

2. What is UN short for? Tick **one**.

- Universal Nations
- United Nations**
- Unified Nations
- United Nationalities

3. What is significant about the year 2030? Explain your answer fully.

Pupil's own response, such as: The year 2030 is significant because this is the year that the Sustainable Development Goal has set as the year that they hope everyone in the world will have access to clean drinking water and good sanitation facilities.

4. When was the UN founded? Tick **one**.

- 1930
- 1948
- 1945**
- 2030

5. In your own words, explain why the UN was started.

Pupil's own response, such as: The UN started because after the Second World War, 51 different countries wanted to come together to work towards peace and unity and to ensure that everyone in the world could live a healthy and happy life. The UN wanted to make sure that there would never be another world war.

6. Fill in the missing words.

Safe drinking water is available at the turn of a tap and toilet and **sanitation** facilities are, more often than not, accessible and **hygienic**.

7. Name **two** ways in which you can catch a waterborne disease.

1. **By drinking contaminated water.**
2. **By bathing in contaminated water.**

8. Explain why a human can only survive for a few days without water.

Pupil's own response, such as: A human can only survive for a few days without water because our bodies are made of 60% water and all of our cells and organs need it to work properly. We also lose water when we sweat and urinate so we need to replace it by drinking more water.

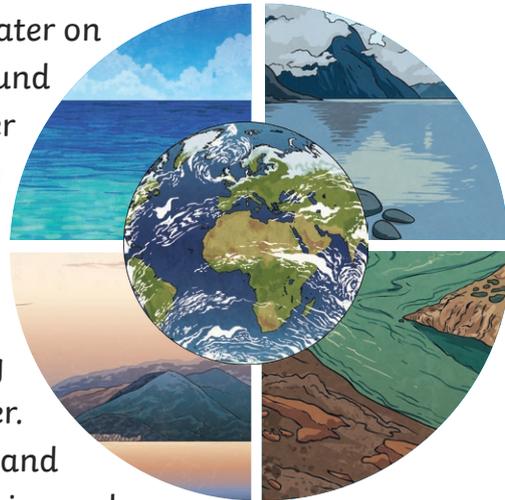
9. Why is it essential that people in the UK need to be more 'Water Wise'? Explain your answer fully and refer to the text.

Pupil's own response, such as: It is essential that people in the UK are more Water Wise because there are more people living in the UK every year who need water but there are only a limited number of places where water can be stored. Therefore, we need to do more to stop wasting water as there is not enough to go around.

World Water Day

Around 60% of the human body is made up of water. Every cell and organ requires plenty of it to function properly. As a result, humans can only survive for a few days at most without fresh, clean drinking water as they need it to replenish what is lost naturally through sweating and urinating. Water is therefore a precious and life-sustaining resource.

75% of the Earth's surface is covered by water, however, not all of it is safe to drink. There are various forms of water on Earth which is found in different locations around the world. Oceans and seas contain salt water (which is not suitable for human consumption) and freshwater is mostly found in lakes or rivers. Water is also present in the atmosphere in the form of water vapour and in ice caps and glaciers. Freshwater is essential to sustaining life but only comprises 2.5% of the Earth's water. Therefore, it is vitally important for humans and all living creatures on Earth, that freshwater is used sensibly and fairly to ensure that life can be sustained.



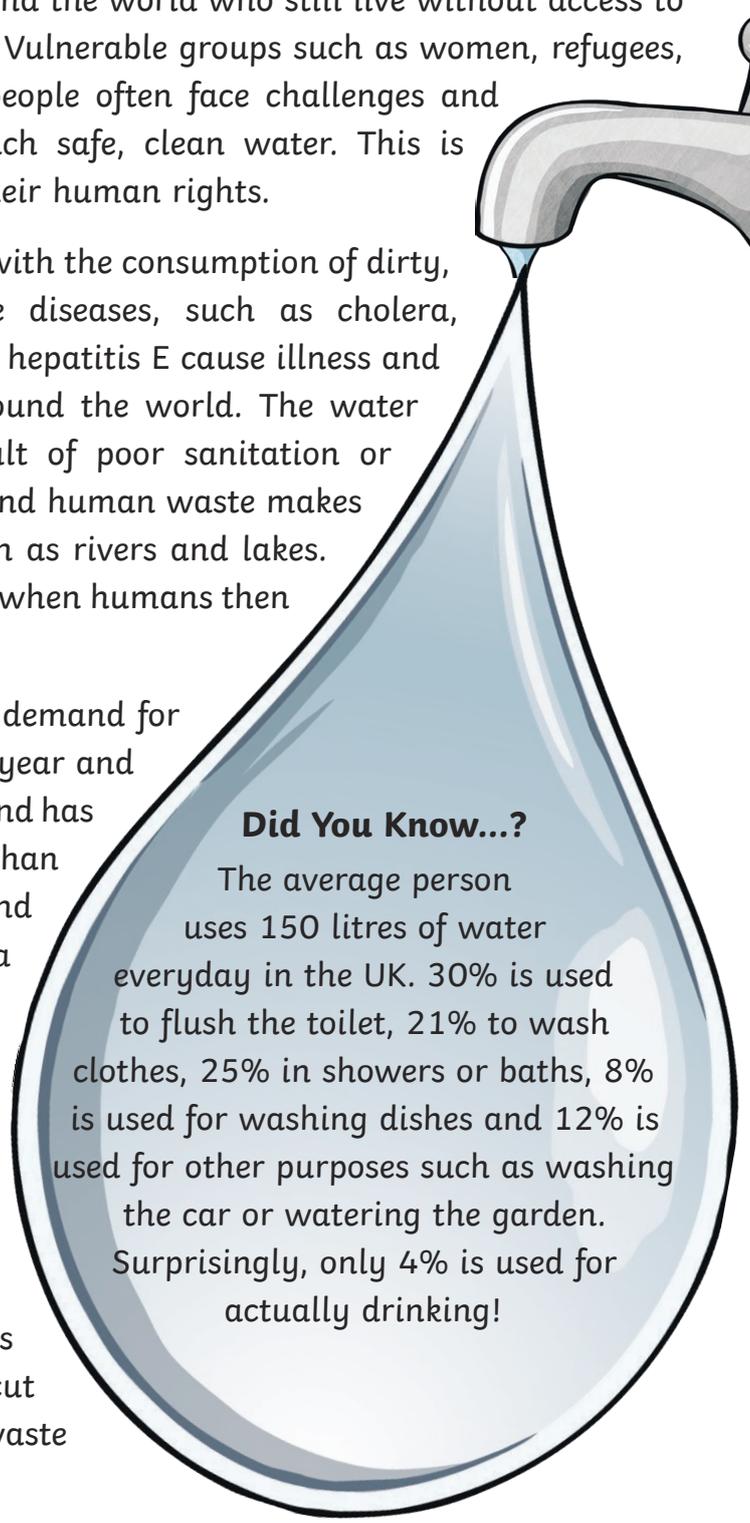
Every year, on the 22nd March, World Water Day focuses the world's attention on the importance of water across the world and the theme changes annually. In 2018, the theme was 'Nature for Water' which explored how nature-based solutions (NBS) can be used to help improve the water challenges facing many people and ecosystems. The theme for World Water Day 2019 is 'Leave No One Behind' and reflects the Sustainable Development Goal 6, set out by the UN (United Nations). The objective is that by 2030, everyone in the world will have access to clean drinking water and good sanitation facilities regardless of race or gender.

The United Nations (UN) is an international organisation which was founded in 1945 after the Second World War. Motivated by the preceding world wars, 51 countries joined together in order to maintain peace and security, to develop friendly relationships between nations and to improve living standards for all. In 1948, the UN adopted the Universal Declaration of Human Rights which states the basic rights and fundamental freedoms to which all human beings are entitled. One such human right is that 'everyone has the right to a standard of living adequate for the health and well-being of himself and of his family'.

Clean water and good sanitation are crucial in maintaining and promoting the health and well-being of humans but they are often taken for granted by those living in developed countries, especially in western countries such as the UK and Europe. Safe drinking water is available at the turn of a tap and toilet and sanitary facilities are mostly easily accessible and hygienic. Sadly, this is not the case for billions of people around the world who still live without access to safe water or sanitation facilities. Vulnerable groups such as women, refugees, disabled people and indigenous people often face challenges and are hindered when trying to reach safe, clean water. This is unacceptable and a violation of their human rights.

There are many dangers involved with the consumption of dirty, contaminated water. Waterborne diseases, such as cholera, typhoid, dysentery, diarrhoea and hepatitis E cause illness and millions of deaths every year around the world. The water becomes contaminated as a result of poor sanitation or lack of toilet facilities as animal and human waste makes its way into sources of water such as rivers and lakes. Transmission of the disease occurs when humans then drink and bathe in the water.

The population, and therefore the demand for water, in the UK is growing every year and amazingly, the south-east of England has less water available per person than the arid, desert states of Syria and Sudan. Although the UK receives a large amount of rainfall, there are limited natural and humanly-constructed methods for storing water (such as reservoirs) and this means that there is only a small amount of water available per person in the UK. Clean water is not an infinite resource and it is essential that we all do more to cut down on how much we use and waste every day.



Did You Know...?

The average person uses 150 litres of water everyday in the UK. 30% is used to flush the toilet, 21% to wash clothes, 25% in showers or baths, 8% is used for washing dishes and 12% is used for other purposes such as washing the car or watering the garden. Surprisingly, only 4% is used for actually drinking!

Questions

1. **Find** and **copy** a word which means to **replace**.

2. What percentage of the Earth's water is freshwater? Tick **one**.

- 75%
- 60%
- 2.5%
- 22%

3. What was the theme of World Water Day 2018?

4. How did the First and Second World Wars help to bring about the United Nations? Explain your answer fully.

5. How are the human rights of certain groups of people being violated? Explain your answer fully.

6. What does the word **hygienic** mean?

7. Explain in your own words how waterborne diseases such as cholera and dysentery can spread.

8. Which of the following is a humanly-constructed method used to store large volumes of rainwater? Tick **one**.

- a dam
- a reservoir
- a water butt
- a lake

9. Which countries are the UK compared to in the text and why?

10. Using the statistics in the **Did You Know...?** box, how could people in the UK try to use less water?

Answers

1. **Find** and **copy** a word which means to **replace**.

replenish

2. What percentage of the Earth's water is freshwater? Tick **one**.

- 75%
- 60%
- 2.5%**
- 22%

3. What was the theme of World Water Day 2018?

Nature for Water

4. How did the First and Second World Wars help to bring about the United Nations? Explain your answer fully.

Pupil's own response, such as: The First and Second World Wars helped to bring about the United Nations because it was after the horrors of these two wars that 51 countries wanted to promote peace and security between nations and develop positive relationships so that they would never go to war again.

5. How are the human rights of certain groups of people being violated? Explain your answer fully.

Pupil's own response, such as: The human right to 'a standard of living adequate for the health and well-being of himself and of his family' of vulnerable groups of people such as women and disabled people is being violated because they either do not have access to clean water and good sanitation or they are stopped from reaching it.

6. What does the word **hygienic** mean?

The word hygienic means clean or sanitary.

7. Explain in your own words how waterborne diseases such as cholera and dysentery can spread.

Pupil's own response, such as: Waterborne diseases are spread because animal and human waste gets into the water as there may not be good toilet or sanitation facilities available. People then drink or bathe in the water which is then contaminated with the disease.

8. Which of the following is a humanly-constructed method used to store large volumes of rainwater? Tick **one**.

- a dam
 a reservoir
 a water butt
 a lake

9. Which countries are the UK compared to in the text and why?

Pupil's own response, such as: The UK is compared to Syria and Sudan because they are both dry countries in the desert where water is scarce, so the comparison shows that the UK does not have much available water.

10. Using the statistics in the **Did You Know...?** box, how could people in the UK try to use less water?

Pupil's own response, such as: People in the UK could try to use less water by flushing the toilet less, having shorter or fewer showers and baths, by collecting rainwater to wash their car with or to water their gardens, and by ensuring wash loads are full when washing clothes.