

Water Conservation

Student Directions Day 1

Today, you are going to get ready to write an informative essay to answer this question:

What can you do to save water?

Day 1 *Get ready to write.*

- Watch the video, *The Adventures of EcoRilla*.
- Discuss this question briefly with your class: Why is it important to save water?
- Listen to the article: *Save Our Water!* carefully.
- What can you do to save water? Turn and talk to a partner about what you could do.
- Fold a piece of paper into quarters. Pick at least four things that you could do to save water. Use words and pictures to show what you chose.
- On a piece of lined paper, write your name and grade, the date, the name of your school and your state, and your teacher's name. You will use this paper tomorrow for writing.

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Student Directions Day 2

Today, you are going to use what you have learned to write an informative essay to answer this question: **What can you do to save water?**

Day 2 *Write!*

Listen to *Water Wise* again. Read along as you listen.

- What can you do to save water? Use the notes you created yesterday. Turn to a partner, point to a box on your note sheet. Explain what you might do and how it would save water.
- When you have finished, write an informative essay explaining what you can do to save water.

Your focusing question for this assignment is: **What can you do to save water?**

Be sure to use facts and examples from the article.

Explain how doing these things will save water.

Remember, a good informative essay:

- Has an introduction
- Has a clear focus/thesis statement
- Uses specific facts and examples from the text (s) to support the focus and explains your thinking
- Has a conclusion
- Uses precise language and linking words to connect ideas
- Has correct spelling, capitalization and punctuation

When you have finished, be sure to check your work and fix any mistakes you find.

We look forward to reading your good writing and thinking!

Grade 3 - Informative/Explanatory Writing Prompt

Teacher Directions

- Use the student prompt as directions for each session. The short video can be found on YouTube: Help the Environment - *The Adventures of EcoRilla Episode 1* - EcoWater Canada http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_ex1ZuKfw64. The video is recommended, but is optional.
- Provide each student with a copy of the prompt and the article. The teacher should feel comfortable re-reading, explaining or clarifying directions as needed. The article should be read aloud while students read along silently.
- The article provides information needed to address the prompt and should be read aloud at least twice before writing. Encourage students to refer back to the article while writing.
- The prompt should be given in two sessions. Allow approximately 45 minutes for each, but the prompt should not be strictly timed. Students should be given the time needed to write and proofread.
- The writing must be done without help, but students may have access to personal dictionaries, word walls, or any other resources to support spelling and mechanics that they are accustomed to using while writing. Provide lined paper from your classroom for writing. Unlined paper may be provided for drawing and note taking.
- This will be first draft writing, but encourage students to proofread and correct any errors they find.

Name:

Save Our Water!

Did you know that kids can make a very important difference in saving the earth's water? They can! But first off, why do we even need to save water?

Water is a natural resource that we get from the Earth. Without it, we would not be able to live! Imagine a world with no water at all. You wouldn't be able to drink it, bathe, or swim! Without clean water, plants, animals, birds and ocean life would also be unable to live. Kids can help protect this resource. You make a huge difference simply by starting at home. To get an idea of how much water we could save if we all made a small effort, think about this. What if every person across the nation flushed their toilets one time less every day? Together they could save enough water to fill a lake as large as a mile wide and long and four feet in depth!

Now you know how important it is to help save water. Try some of the ideas below. Start doing your part to change our world!

Some Ways Kids Can Help to Save Water:

- When you wash your hands, don't leave the water running. Wet your hands and turn the water off. Use soap and lather your hands well. Then turn the water on to rinse. Turn off the water and make sure it is off completely. Then dry your hands.
- Do the same when you brush your teeth. Turn the faucet on to get your toothbrush and toothpaste wet. Turn it on again to rinse your mouth and toothbrush. Don't leave the water running while you're brushing.
- Baths use a lot of water (about 37 gallons on average). Take short showers and use only about 20 gallons of water, instead.
- Do you have plants in your house? When vegetables or other fresh produce are washed, collect that water and use it to water the plants.
- Do you like a drink of cold water now and then? Keep a pitcher of water in the refrigerator. That way you don't have to run the water to get it cold.

- Put a barrel outdoors to catch rain water. Then use that water for things like watering plants or flushing toilets. You can save hundreds of gallons of water a year!
- In the summertime, it's fun to play under the lawn sprinkler. When you do, make sure it's only when the lawn is being watered.
- Remind the others in your home, and your friends, not to leave any faucet running. Only use what is truly needed!
- Is there a leaky faucet or toilet in the bathroom at school? Be sure to let someone know so that it can be repaired.

Even if you do just one thing each day to contribute to your home's water conservation, you're doing the right thing!

Adapted from Water Conservation for Kids

TheWaterPage.com

<http://www.thewaterpage.com/water-conservation-kids.htm>

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