

Kids Conservation

Why Do You Need To Save Water?



With all that water in the oceans and around the world, why do we need to conserve water? Did you know that less than 1% of all the water on Earth can be used by people? The rest is salt water (the kind you find in the ocean) or is permanently frozen and we can't drink it, wash with it, or use it to water plants. Salt water has too many minerals in it to be used, plus it doesn't taste good. Why can't we take the salt out of the water? Well, we can, but it is a very expensive process called desalination.

It is also important to conserve water because we rely on rain, sleet and snow to bring us water and since the weather is unpredictable, it sometimes results in a drought when there isn't enough water available.

As our population grows, more and more people are using up our limited resource. Therefore, it is important that we use our water wisely and not waste it.

Conservation Facts

- **FACT!** A leaky faucet can waste 3,280 gallons of water a year. That is equal to 165 bathtubs of water.
- **FACT!** You use 5 gallons of water a minute when you shower. If you take a 10 minute shower you use 50 gallons of water. A full bathtub uses only 36 gallons of water.

- **FACT!** When you let the water run while you brush your teeth, 3 gallons of water go down the drain each minute.
- **FACT!** Washing small loads in the dishwasher uses the same amount of water as washing full loads.
- **FACT!** A running hose can use 8 gallons of water per minute. Make sure you have a shut off nozzle on the end of your hose.
- **FACT!** Don't use the toilet as a trash can. Every time you flush, you use 3 to 6 gallons of water.

Sources:

<http://www.nwwater.com/index.php/kids/kids-conservation>

<http://www.epa.gov/WaterSense/kids/whysave.html>