

Preparatory to year 2 Waterwise schools toolkit

The Waterwise toolkit is designed to support teachers by providing easy-to-use stand-alone activities which develop student understanding about water issues. The preparatory to year 2 resources in the toolkit are organised by relevant Australian Curriculum subject links and cross-curriculum priorities: Sustainability and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Histories and Cultures.

Sustainability

Using water efficiently provides lots of additional ideas for promoting the importance of conserving our precious water supplies. They also explain how students, their families and the community can take action to use water more efficiently. Resources include classroom activities, games, posters, brochures, how to guides and water audits.

In addition to activities outlined in the subject curriculum sections below, the following Waterwise activities are suitable for preparatory to year 2.

Why is water precious?

In the **Buckets resource race** outdoor relay game, students experience what it's like to compete for scarce water resources.

How do we save water at home?

Students have fun identifying the Waterwise behaviours in the Family journey in Whizzy's incredible journeys pick-a-path book or in Adventure 2 of Whizzy's new adventures: journey through the pipes.

The **Be waterwise: make a difference today** video [1:56] offers simple suggestions to reduce water wastage at home.

The years 5 to 8 **home water use audit** can be adapted to enable students (with the help of their parents/carers) to conduct a home water use audit to find out how much water their family uses and how they can use water more efficiently in their home.

The **Home waterwise quiz** allows students and their families to assess how they can be more efficient in their use of water at home.

Bucket loads of savings! is a detailed brochure or poster showing a range of Waterwise behaviours.

Whizzy's water saving tips is a poster useful for displaying ways everyone can save water.

How do we save water at school?

In year 2 **designing a Waterwise poster**, students create a poster to communicate key messages about using water sustainably and ways to conserve water.

In the **Dripping tap investigation**, students measure how much water is wasted from a leaking tap.





Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander histories and cultures cross-curriculum priority

Incorporating Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander water perspectives includes activity ideas for Preparatory to Year 2 focusing on the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples' connection to place and how they use water. These include:

In the **Shared perspectives guest speaker** activity, students learn from local elders about how Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander people value, use and manage their water. (Geography Foundation to Year 2)

'Dreaming stories' were used to pass on important knowledge about what Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples believe and how they should live. They provide an insight into their cultural views about the value of water and how it should be managed.

'Tiddalick: The frog who caused a flood' highlights the importance of water for animals.

'Our special water connections' also uses storybooks to convey the close connection that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples have with the land and water.

Additional Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Histories and Cultures activities are included in the Resources by subject section below.

Resources by subject

Science

Curriculum links	Teaching ideas
<p>Preparatory</p> <p>Living things have basic needs, including food and water (ACSSU002)</p> <p>Science involves observing, asking questions about, and describing changes in, objects and events (ACSHE013)</p>	<p>Water is precious</p> <p>Students learn about the importance of water for living things and how to use it wisely.</p> <p>How does water change?</p> <p>Students investigate three states of water using their senses.</p>
<p>Year 1</p> <p>Everyday materials can be physically changed in a variety of ways (ACSSU019)</p>	<p>How does water change?</p> <p>Students investigate how water can be physically changed by heating or cooling.</p> <p>What can water do?</p> <p>Students use a predict-observe-explain strategy in hands-on tasks to understand how water changes when warmed or cooled.</p>
<p>Year 2</p> <p>Earth's resources are used in a variety of ways (ACSSU032)</p> <p>People use science in their daily lives, including when caring for their environment and living things (ACSHE035)</p>	<p>How water is used</p> <p>Students complete four workstations which explore the variety of ways that water is used by plants and humans.</p> <p>How much rain?</p> <p>Students go on a puzzle hunt in the school grounds to find a rain gauge. They make a rain gauge and measure rainfall in the school grounds.</p> <p>Water challenges</p> <p>Students consider what would happen if there was no water. They explore how our actions can either waste water or save water.</p>

Geography

Curriculum links	Teaching ideas
<p>Preparatory</p> <p>The representation of the location of places and their features on simple maps and models (ACHASSK014)</p>	<p>Lower primary water audit</p> <p>Students map the locations of the water use items and water use areas in the school as they conduct a visual school water audit.</p> <p>School water use audit for Years 1 to 5</p> <p>Students map the water use areas and identify the water use items as they conduct a water audit. This activity is a shortened version of the Lower primary water audit.</p>
<p>The places people live in and belong to, their familiar features and why they are important to people (ACHASSK015)</p>	<p>Clean water is best</p> <p>Students explore why access to clean drinking water is important and how to save water at school and at home.</p> <p>Bucket loads of savings poster</p> <p>Students identify Waterwise behaviours that can be used in the home to look after our future water needs.</p> <p>Waterwise story books</p> <p>Students identify the Waterwise behaviours in the Family journey in Whizzy's incredible journeys pick-a-path book or in Adventure 2 of Whizzy's new adventures: journey through the pipes.</p> <p>Using Whizzy's storybooks for Preparatory to Year 2 provides some story-reading strategies to promote student understanding about the water concepts in these books.</p>

Geography continued

Curriculum links	Teaching ideas
<p>Year 1</p> <p>Activities in the local place and reasons for their location (ACHASSK033)</p>	<p>No water today – with a puppet</p> <p>Students consider what would happen if there was no water. They explore how our actions can either waste water or save water.</p> <p>Using Whizzy’s new adventures storybook</p> <p>Students read the story and then explore their local water story, identifying where key features such as water sources, water treatment plants can be found on a map. This activity is designed to be used by water educators but can easily be adapted for teachers.</p>
<p>Year 2</p> <p>The ways in which Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples maintain special connections to particular Country/Place (ACHASSK049)</p>	<p>Water stories from Torres Strait – Dauan and Saibai Islands</p> <p>How did Aboriginal peoples manage their water resources?</p> <p>These Year 6–7 student fact sheets can be used as a teacher resource to explain traditional use of water by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.</p>

Design and technologies

Curriculum links	Teaching ideas
<p>Preparatory–year 2</p> <p>Identify how people design and produce familiar products, services and environments and consider sustainability to meet personal and local community needs (ACTDEK001)</p>	<p>Waterwise communicators</p> <p>Students tour different locations around the school where water is used and take photos of students demonstrating ways to save water at that location. They use the photos to design a class checklist of ways to save water in the school.</p>