

Hands on activity

FRESH-WATER ON EARTH

- **Objectives:** 1. Find out the percentage of fresh-water on Earth. 2. Raise awareness of the scarcity of fresh-water and the importance of using it wisely.

Before you start:

Amount of water on Earth found as ice and weather systems: 2%
(white macaroni)

Amount of water on Earth held in living things: 0.5% (red macaroni)

Amount of fresh-water on Earth: 0.5% (blue macaroni)

You will need:

- A big bowl or bucket
- 100 pieces of macaroni
- Wax crayons
- Pencil and paper
- A physical World map
- Small cups
- Blu tack (wall fixing adhesive)

Procedures:

1. Place the World map on the board. Explain the children that today they will find out how much fresh water there is on Earth, and where it is located.
2. Have students place 100 macaroni pieces inside the bowl. This represents all the water in the World. In the map, ask some children to identify some places where water is found.
3. Now ask children if they can find some water in the form of ice (ice polar cups). Ask two children to colour two macaroni white. This represents the amount of water that is found as ice and in weather systems (2%). Place pasta back in the bowl.
4. Ask children if living things have water in their bodies. Have a child colour half a piece of macaroni red. This represents the amount of water held by living things (0.5%). Place pasta back in bowl.
5. Where is all the fresh-water? Ask some children to find some rivers and lakes. Remind them of ponds, springs, and aquifers, which also have fresh-water. Have a child colour half a piece of macaroni blue. This represents the amount of fresh-water on Earth (0.5%). Place pasta back in bowl.
6. Tell the children they will be hunting for fresh-water to drink. Give them cups and one at a time, allow them to dip their cups in the bowl without looking. If they find a coloured piece of macaroni, they can stick it to the world map in the correct place with blu tack (wall fixing adhesive).
7. Ask children to complete the questions sheet and table.

Now answer these questions:

1. What is the percentage of fresh-water on Earth?

2. What is the percentage of water in living things?

3. What is the percentage of water as ice?

4. What is the percentage of salt-water?

5. Is fresh-water necessarily clean?

How to Use Water Wisely

Complete the table:

Water you use	How to waste it	How to save it
To brush my teeth	Let the tap run while I brush my teeth.	