



Drips & Drops

Grade Level:

Upper Elementary

Subject Areas:

Science, Mathematics

SD Standards

Science

4.S.1.1

4.S.1.2

Math

4.A.3.1

Setting:

Home

Skills:

Data Collection,
Calculation, Observation

Prior Preparation:

Students will need to have a working knowledge of water conservation. It is important that students understand that many gallons of water are used in the home every day. This activity works in conjunction with Hazardous Homework and the Scavenger Hunt in reinforcing water conservation habits.

Vocabulary:

conserve, data, natural
resource, simulation
activity

Objective: Students will learn specific water conservation ideas that can be completed at home. The activities are designed to raise personal awareness of how much water we use and possible ways that we can conserve it for the future.

Materials:

Drips and Drops Activity

Procedure:

- Have students cut and assemble the Drips and Drops Activity guide.
- Explain to the students that this activity is to be completed at home with a parent or guardian.
- This activity is designed to be used one of two ways. You can assemble a “kit” that can be on loan from the classroom for each child to take home on a scheduled date. A kit can consist of a plastic box measuring 8"x5"x2 ½ inches with a lid. The kit materials are listed on the Drips and Drops activity booklet. You will also need to create a check-out schedule for loaning the kit.
- If students are to complete this activity without the use of a pre-made kit, he/she will have to attain the kit materials at home, as well as the other items listed under “home materials”. (Note: All of the materials in this activity should be available in each student’s home. Some substitutions can be made if necessary (for example: wax pencils are used to mark the cups - a marker could work just as easily)
- Send a copy of the “Suggestions for parents/guardians” home with each student (if using a kit, tape a copy of the suggestions to the top of the lid of the kit).
- Have students bring their completed Drips and Drops activity booklet back to school for class discussion.

Extensions

- Have students compile their own water/water conservation dictionary. Have them illustrate as many terms as possible. Have students assemble their dictionaries with an illustrated cover that demonstrates a specific water topic. Display the water dictionaries in a school hallway display case.

- Have students find how many words they can make out of the letters in “water conservation”.
- Put together a “People’s Water Court” and stage a mock trial for a major water waster.
- Have the class develop their own classroom water law and penalties - forgetting to turn off water, lose a recess period; letting the water get cold before drinking, write a conservation poem, etc.

Vocabulary Glossary:

<i>Conserve</i>	Limiting use, care for, preserve or protect; recycle materials
<i>Data</i>	Observations and measurements
<i>Natural Resource</i>	Earth’s materials like water, fossil fuels, air which occur in limited amounts
<i>Simulation Activity</i>	To imitate by using a model to represent the real thing