

WOW! Wonders of Water

Time for a **WOW!**

Being an Advocate!

An advocate is someone who influences how other people do things—with the goal of doing things better. By inspiring others to Take Action for water, you are influencing people to save and protect a precious resource. That's doing something better! That's being an advocate!

What people can you get to join you in saving and protecting water? How about everyone at school? Neighbors on your block? Who else could help save water?

Saving and Protecting Water

What You and Your Brownie Team Can Do!

Shut Off That Faucet!

Where do you notice running water? When do you and your family let faucets run when you could shut them off?



SAVE: How about making signs to encourage people to turn off the faucet. Yes, they should wash well, but they shouldn't use more water than they need. Suggest they not wash their hands longer than the time it takes to sing "Happy Birthday."

Where could you get permission to post your signs? At home, by the sinks and in the shower? At school? In your town library?

SHARE: How much water is saved by people following your advice? Share what you've done with those in charge of the buildings you've helped. Inspire others to join in.

Stop That Leak!

Where do you notice toilets running or water dripping? Check at home, and at your school and town library—any buildings you can think of!

SAVE: Get others to join you! Who is in charge of the buildings where you found leaks? Whom can you report your “leaky evidence” to so that the leaks get fixed?

SHARE: Think how much water you might save by fixing every leak you find! Share what you’ve done and get others to spot and fix leaks, too.



Choose a Broom, Not a Hose!

Where do you notice people hosing down driveways and sidewalks? Does your family do that? If you live in a city, maybe you’ve even seen store owners hosing down the sidewalks on a rainy day!

SAVE: How about getting your neighbors, your school, or businesses in your town to join in? Encourage everyone to stop hosing down sidewalks and driveways and to start sweeping instead. Think of all the water to be saved!

SHARE: Tell those in charge of your town how many people have agreed to put down their hoses. Spread the word and get even more people to join in!



Ban Bottles!

How often do you drink water out of small, store-bought plastic bottles?

Do you really need to, or is there another way?

You might not realize it, but it takes 3 gallons of water to make the plastic for every gallon of water that gets bottled. That's a lot of water not being saved!

Maybe you and your family drink bottled water because the tap water in your town doesn't taste good or your family is worried about it not being pure.

Maybe sometimes, such as after a storm, the water from your tap is muddy looking. Talk to those in charge of your town's water supply to find out why the water tastes or looks yucky. Maybe there is a way to make it better. Would a water filter on your tap help?

If not, and you really can't drink your tap water, ask your parents to buy bottled water in large containers only. Have a family member pour what you need into a glass or a container you can carry and use over and over again.

SAVE: Get others to join in! How about asking your school, your sports teams, your neighbors, maybe even your whole community? Ask everyone to stop buying small plastic bottles of water.

SHARE: Let even more people know what you've accomplished. Maybe you can influence store owners in your area to stop selling small bottles of water. Now, that's being an advocate!

Grow Water-Smart Plants!

Where do you see plants that need lots of watering? Look in your home, your backyard, and your neighborhood. How about at school or your place of worship? Check out any nearby parks, too!

SAVE: Who is in charge of the plantings in your community? In your neighborhood park? At your school? What might you ask them to change? Can they replace water-hungry plants with ones that live naturally in your area with little water? Once you ask one or a few people, whom else can you ask?

SHARE: You may not see a change right away, but you can still share your effort and ask even more people to join you! It will make others aware of the water they might be wasting. It will get them thinking about how to save water. That's influencing people and being an advocate! Good for you!

