

Ice Cool – Responsible Use of Water

In this section we will explore the meaning of the value of Responsibility. Use the questions below to stimulate discussion and reflection on this value.

Once the children have understood the value of Responsibility, they should explore the Inspire to Action Challenges on how to use water wisely.

You will almost certainly know of some ways in which to use water wisely, but just how wise could we be when it comes to water? The ideas below are a starting point. What new ideas can the children come up with?

Responsibility

A responsible person understands their role and responsibilities, and carries them out reliably and to the best of their ability.

Discuss the following questions with the class, asking the children to give appropriate examples from their own lives if they can. Children should appreciate that there is no definitive right or wrong answer to these questions:

1. Do you have any responsibilities? What are they?
2. Why is it good to be responsible?
3. What would happen if we did not take any responsibility for our own actions?
4. Does responsibility change as you grow older? What are your parents responsible for that you are not?
5. What should you be responsible for?
6. What responsibilities are needed to ensure the well being of Antarctica?

3. Only fill the kettle with as much water as you need and always buy energy efficient dishwashers and washing machines that use less water and energy.
4. Get your parents and your school to buy water butts and link them to any down pipe or guttering. Every drop you save can be used to water your plants.
5. When you water plants or seedlings, water them near the base at the beginning or end of the day, not in the middle of the day when it is hotter. Use old washing up water, bath water or water from the water butt to do the job.
6. Design water saving posters and signs to remind people at school and at home that every drop of water is precious.

Inspire to Action Challenges

Now it's time to put this value into action and see what you can do to make a difference.

Start by brainstorming with the children how we can save water in our day to day lives. Below are some ideas to get them started. Can the children create water saving posters to be put up around school and at home that draw people's attention to the need to save water wherever we are?

1. Always turn off running taps unless you are actually using the water for something.
2. Take showers not baths each day and then treat yourself to a bath when you really want a good soak.