



**BCgreen**  
GAMES

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# WaterWise

## 30 Minute Lesson Plan

### INTRODUCTION

Surprisingly, Canadians waste a whopping amount of water.

A typical Canadian uses up to 125,000 litres of water in a single year and British Columbians are the worst offenders in the country. With the population of our province expected to grow by 1.4 million people in the next 25 years, it's incredibly important that we secure healthy water for future generations. This activity will help students make saving water easy and empower them to educate their families on making wise water choices.

### INSTRUCTIONS

- 1 Put all of the water bottles together in the center of the floor. Each person in British Columbia uses 490 litres of water a day. Imagine having 490 bottles right here in front of you.
- 2 Use the water footprint calculator (<http://goblue.zerofootprint.net>) to determine the average amount of water that each student uses. Colour in the amount on the water footprint chart.
- 3 Consider this: the amount of water used by an average household tap is 12 litres per minute, a garden hose uses 20 litres per minute and an average toilet uses 13 litres per flush. As a class, brainstorm ways that individuals can save water while using the bathroom, gardening, and performing other household chores and activities.
- 4 Give the students several strips of marking tape to tie around the taps, faucets and hoses at school and at home to remind them of places where water can be conserved. Empower your students to explain to others the meaning of the marking tape and get them to share their own water conservation experiences.

*Check out Living Water Smart at [www.livingwatersmart.ca](http://www.livingwatersmart.ca) for more water saving ideas. Have your class come up with a great water saving project, document the action and submit it to BC Green Games at [www.bcgreengames.ca](http://www.bcgreengames.ca).*

### MATERIALS

- Enough one litre bottles for each student (*ask students to bring in a bottle from home*)
- Water footprint chart
- Colouring crayons, markers etc.
- Water footprint calculator (*access to a computer and the internet*)
- Brightly-coloured marking tape

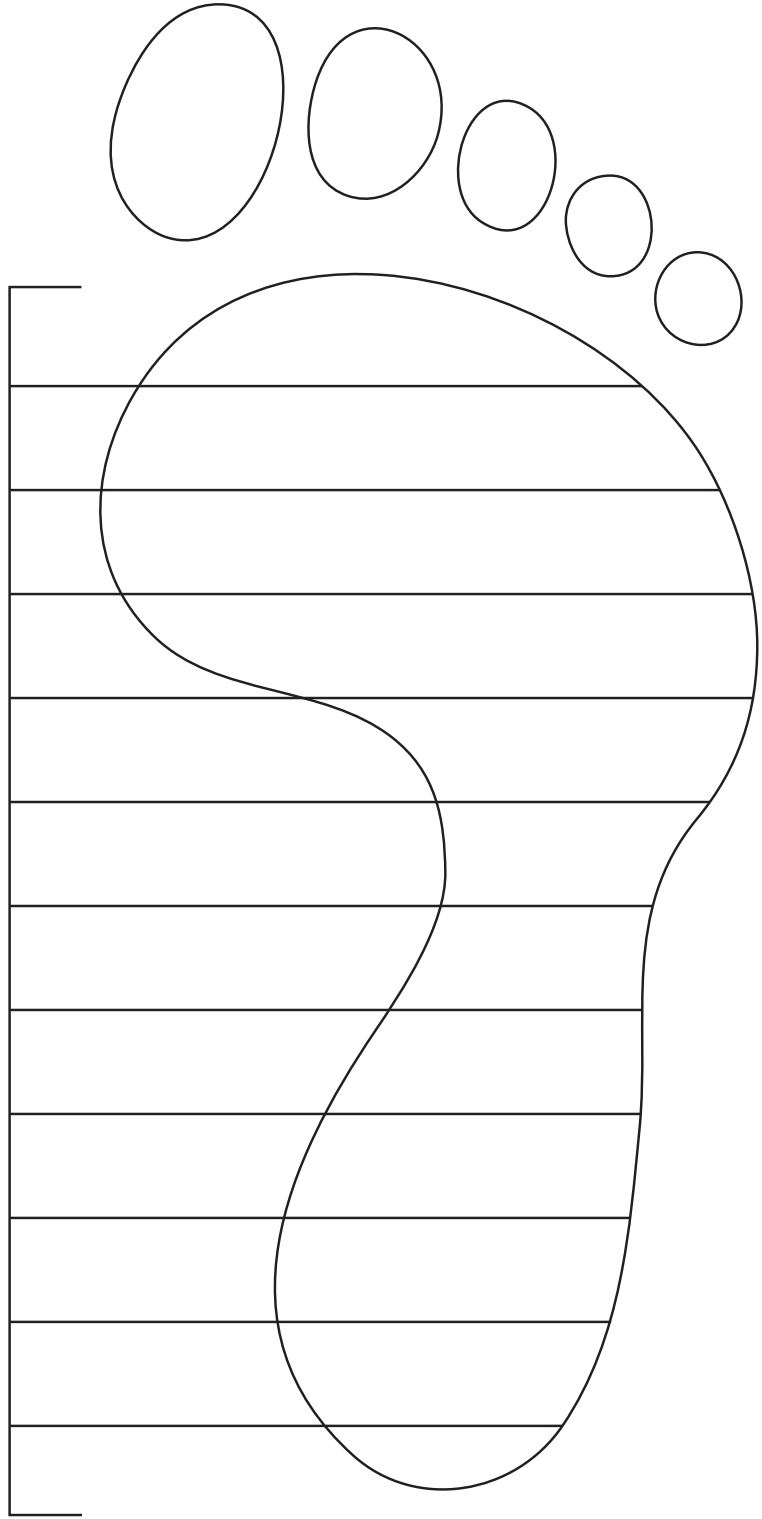
litres of water used per person / year



0

62,500

125,000



# Further Water Conservation and Stream Health Resources

## LIVING WATER SMART HOME ASSESSMENT

An activity for the whole family! Compare your usual practices with those that are the most water smart, and identify steps to reduce your water usage and impact. Share changes you or your class made and win a prize of a safe stainless steel Living Water Smart Bottle (stocks limited).

[www.livingwatersmart.ca/get\\_involved/home-assessment.html](http://www.livingwatersmart.ca/get_involved/home-assessment.html)

## CLEAN UP AND RESTORATION

Consider being a part of local stream clean-up or restoration initiatives happening in your community.

**Pacific Salmon Foundation**

[www.psf.ca](http://www.psf.ca)

**Fraser Salmon & Watersheds Program**

[www.fswp.ca](http://www.fswp.ca)

**Think Salmon**

[www.thinksalmon.com](http://www.thinksalmon.com)

**Pacific Streamkeepers Federation**

[www.pskf.ca](http://www.pskf.ca)

## RESOURCES TO EXPLORE

**Stream To Sea**

[www-heb.pac.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/community/education/eduintro\\_e.htm](http://www-heb.pac.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/community/education/eduintro_e.htm)

**Wetland Education Program**

[www.bcwf.bc.ca/programs/wetlands/](http://www.bcwf.bc.ca/programs/wetlands/)

**WildBC**

[www.hctf.ca/wild/resources/index.html](http://www.hctf.ca/wild/resources/index.html)

**Project WET**

[www.projectwet.org/index.html](http://www.projectwet.org/index.html)

**Watershed Pledge Program**

[www.commonscit.ca/watershed/](http://www.commonscit.ca/watershed/)

**Waterbucket**

[www.waterbucket.ca](http://www.waterbucket.ca)