



Second Nature - *Water Conservation*

Today we learned

Water is a necessity for all humans, plants and animals. **Water conservation** means reducing the amount of water we use. We want to use only the amount of water that we need and ensure that no water is wasted! Different environments have access to water through either **surface water or groundwater**. Water **treatment plants** are often used to filter and clean water before we use it!

The average family uses 300 gallons of water every day! What are some ways that your family is already practicing water conservation at home? What are some practices you can implement?

Now at home

Activity 1 - Shower Races

One place in our home that we use a lot of water is the bathroom! Brainstorm some ways you can conserve water during your daily routine. Remind your child that although we want to conserve water, it doesn't mean that we have to give up our hygiene practices. Water conservation just means we want to use only the amount of water that we need!

Create a Shower Race Log like the one below. Place the log and a timer in the bathroom. Encourage your household to log the length of each shower next to their name. Add up the recorded time to see who conserved the most water!

	Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4
Polar Bear				
Starry Night				

Activity 2 - Where Does Your Water Come From?

Have a discussion with your child about the type of environment you live in. Are you in a desert, on a coast, or in the mountains? Does the water in your home come from groundwater or surface water? If your water is treated at a water treatment plant, how far does the water travel to get to the water treatment plant and how far does the treated water travel from the plant to your home?

Have your child draw a diagram of all the steps water needs to take before it reaches your faucets. Start with rain or snow and go from there! Does it go off into a river? Or does it enter through the Earth's surface as ground water? Does your water pass through any dams or water treatment plants?

To send us any photos, videos, or questions, email us at education@sproutup.org!

