USE WATER WISELY OUTDOORS

1,000 gallons can run through an outdoor hose in an hour! So, it’s no wonder so much water is wasted outdoors.

Some water-saving ideas are spinning in this “water wheel.” For each numbered suggestion, go around the circle clockwise, reading every other word. (Circle them as you read them.) Keep going until you’ve read all the words.

MAKE A RAIN GAUGE

Take a milk carton and cut off the top with a pair of scissors. Then, bury the carton in the ground so that it just sticks out. After the next rainfall, measure the water in the carton with a ruler to see how many inches of rain fell. Do you know how many inches of rain fall every year in your area? Look up your state in an encyclopedia to find out. (It may be less than you think!)
WITH YOUR PARENTS, TRY THESE 2 RULES:

1. USE PLANTS THAT ARE NATIVE TO YOUR REGION and ones that don’t need lots of water.

2. PUT MULCH AROUND PLANTS to hold in moisture.

WHAT FLOWERING PLANTS ARE NATIVE TO YOUR REGION?
If you don’t know any, ask the reference librarian at your local library to help you. Draw a picture of 2 native flowering plants. Write the names of these plants under your drawings.

Ask your parents about planting these in your garden. You’ll be saving water!

MAKE SOME MULCH!
There are lots of recipes for mulch. You can use:
• pine needles
• fallen leaves
• shredded bark
• straw.
Put your mulch around the soil, 1-2 inches from the base of the plant.
Every drop counts when it comes to conserving water.

Use the secret code to discover some other ways you can save water — inside and out.

1. Turn off the shower while you

2. Wash only ___ ___ ___ loads of

3. If you take a ___ ___ ___ , fill only $\frac{3}{4}$ of the ___ ___ ___.

4. Collect ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ for ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ use.

**HOW WILL YOU SAVE WATER?**

Think about the water-saving tips you’ve learned. Which ones can you start using today? Write them in the spaces below. Put a check in the box when you use that tip!
You know, people really can do a lot to help use water wisely!

No kidding! Here are more things we can do — and some fun facts to know about H₂O!

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

First, finish the sentences by choosing the correct words from the list. Then, fit the words into the crossword puzzle.

GRASS  SNOW  SAVE
POOLS  BREAD  MILK
WETTEST  DISHES  GARDEN
DRINK  GALLONS

ACROSS
5. More than 100,000 ________ of water are needed to make an automobile.
15. Rinse dirty ________ in a basin of water instead of under a running faucet. Use a basin to wash them, too.
23. Mount Waiakea in Hawaii is the ________ place in the world.
30. A cow needs to drink 3 gallons of water to make a gallon of ________.
39. Choose plants that don't need much water for your ________.

DOWN
1. Don't water ________, unless it stays flat after you walk on it.
2. Cover swimming ________ to reduce evaporation when they're not being used.
11. If you melted 10 inches of ________ , you'd get about 1 inch of water.
15. It takes 1,400 gallons of water to grow and process the ingredients for a hamburger, french fries and soft ________.
28. Low-flow shower heads can ________ water.
36. A slice of ________ is ½ water.

A SPECIAL MESSAGE

After you complete the crossword puzzle, find the box that has the same number as the one below each blank. Fill in the blank with the letter from the box.

A SPECIAL MESSAGE

People who can control their use of water
2. Water plants in early morning or evening.
4. Collect and recycle rainwater.
3. If you have a lawn, choose drought-resistant grasses.
2. Wash only full loads.
1. Turn off the faucet while shaving or scrubbing a car.

ANSWERS

1. Turn on the faucet while shaving or scrubbing a car.
2. Wash only full loads.
3. If you have a lawn, choose drought-resistant grasses.
4. Collect and recycle rainwater.
2. Water plants in early morning or evening.

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