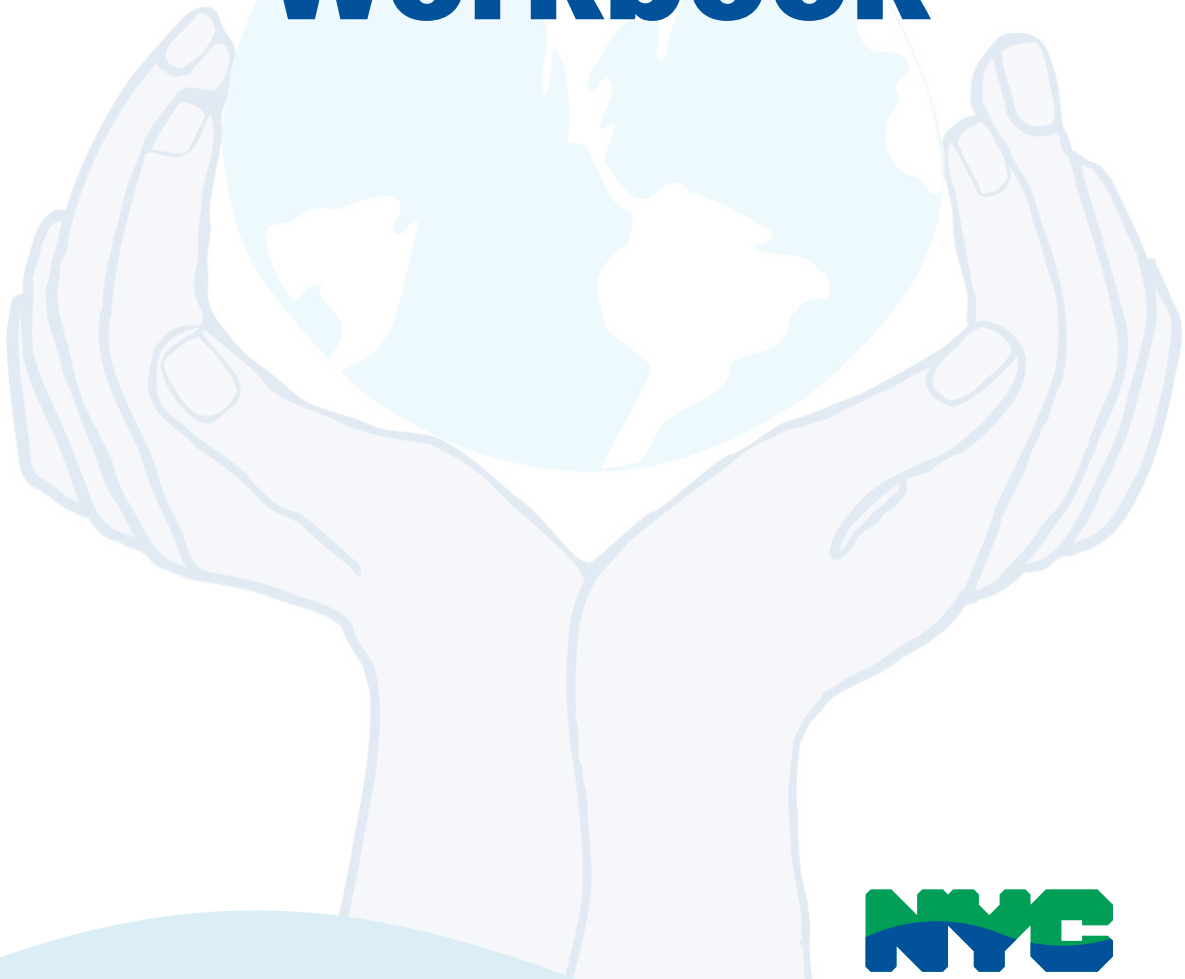


New York City Water Saver's Workbook



My Name is: _____

NEW YORK CITY WATER SAVER'S WORKBOOK

Do you ever wonder where your water comes from when you turn on your faucet to wash your hands, brush your teeth or take a refreshing drink?

Your water comes from the rain and snow that falls on the mountains far away from New York City - much too far for you to walk in a day. Water travels down the mountains through rivers, streams and soil. In some areas it collects in large, deep lakes created to hold water. The lakes are called reservoirs and the land that drains the water into these reservoirs is called a watershed. From the reservoirs, large underground pipes, called aqueducts, transport the water to New York City and then to our homes and schools. Along the way, your water is cared for by many people, working very hard to ensure that it is plentiful and safe to drink.

New York City's 19 reservoirs hold about 570 billion (or 570,000,000,000) gallons of water that is used by more than nine million people. Can you guess how many gallons of water you use every day? If you guessed about 100 gallons, you are correct. Sometimes we waste water. We may keep the faucet running when we're not using it or take very long showers. Most of the time we're careful. We know how important water is for our good health and for the health of our planet. Saving water is easy.

What do you do to save water?

Your **New York City Water Saver's Workbook** will help you explore how water is used every day, why it is important to conserve water and ways we can protect our water supply. Your workbook is filled with games and activities that will help make learning about water a lot of fun. The artwork and poetry were created by students for the New York City Department of Environmental Protection's annual Water Resources Art and Poetry Contest. Perhaps one day you will participate in the contest, too.



Activity:

List 10 ways you use water at home.

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.
- 6.
- 7.
- 8.
- 9.
- 10.

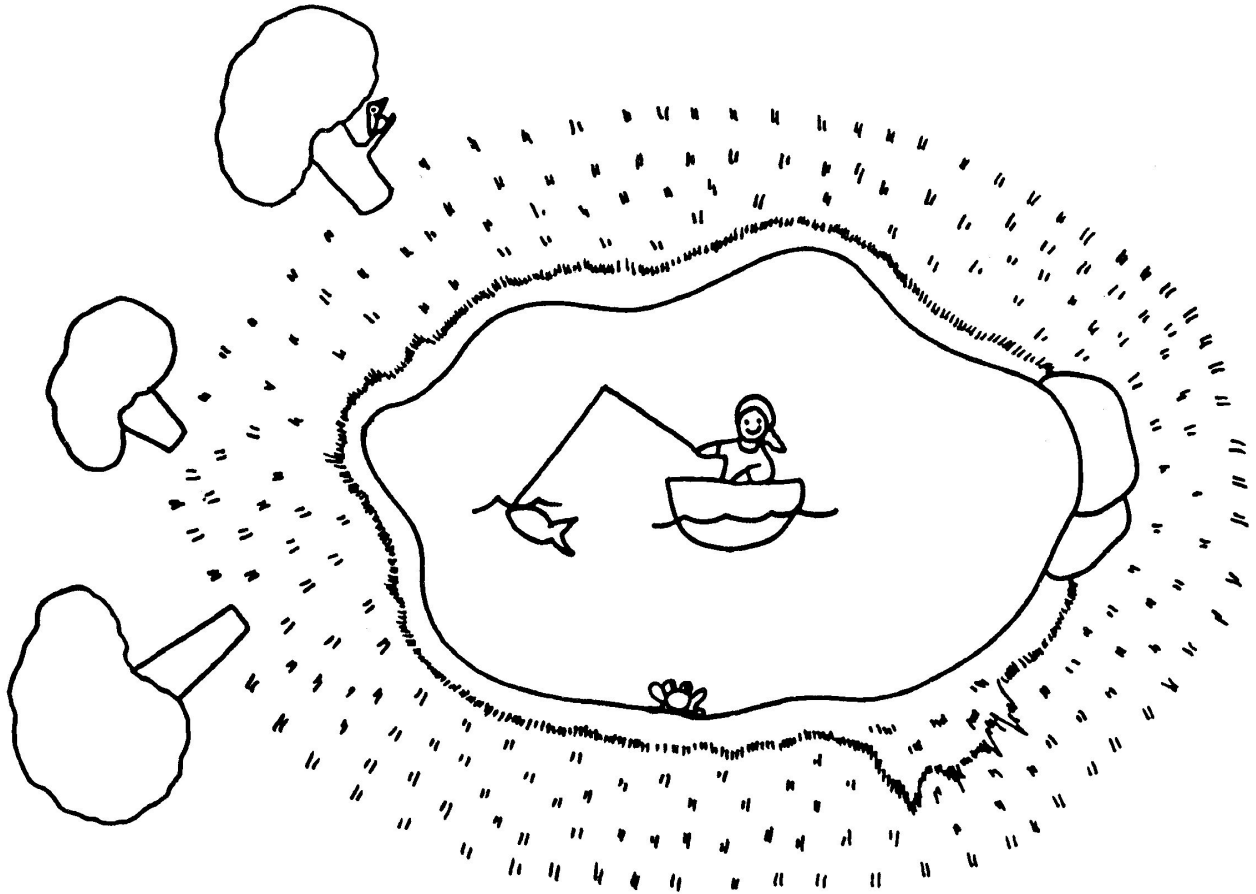
List 10 ways you use water at school.

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.
- 6.
- 7.
- 8.
- 9.
- 10.

Art by Lemonia, School of the Transfiguration, Queens

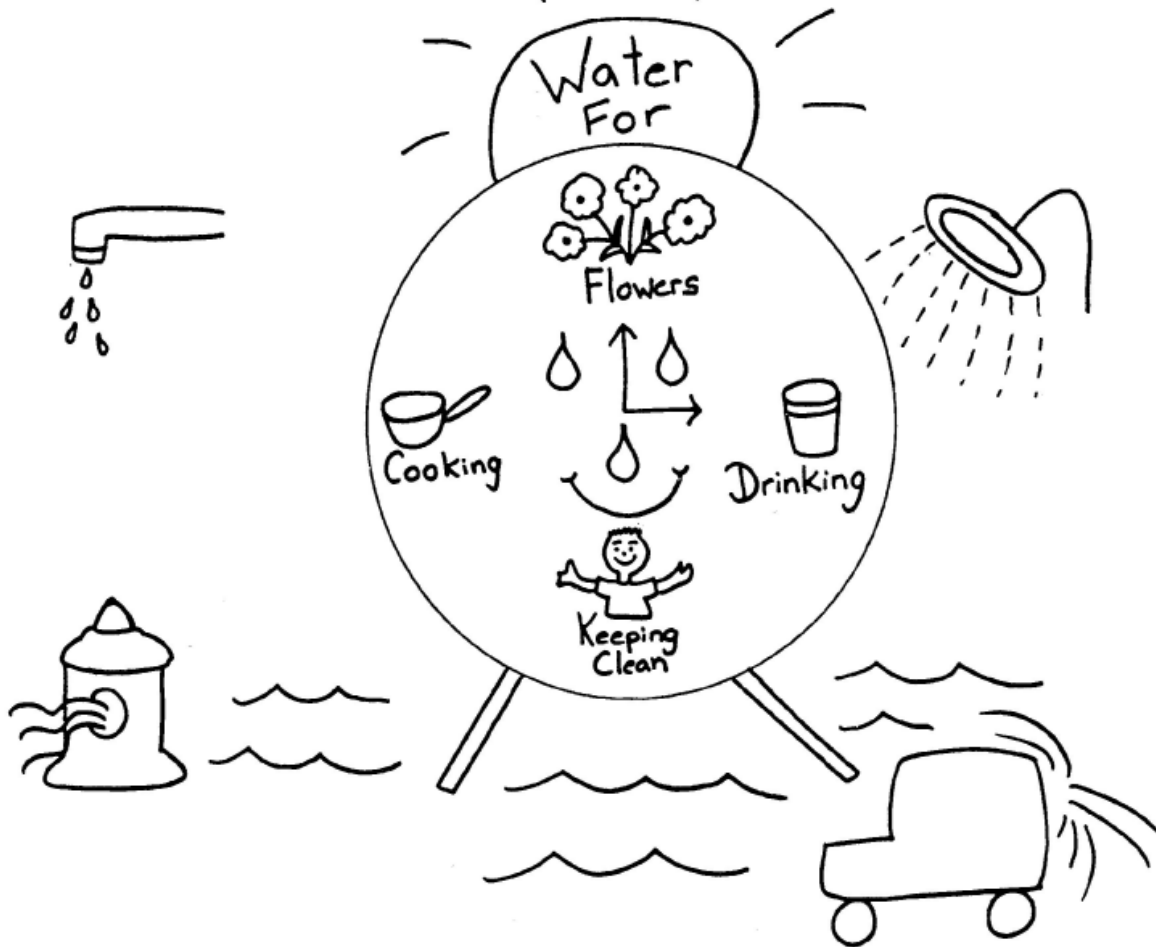
Enjoy Clean Water!

Water is the gift that nature gave us. We should savor every drop. It quenches our thirst and nourishes our crops. Let us cherish every cup. Every tiny little drop. Let us conserve it. Please let us try. Don't let us drip our city dry.



Activity: Count the number of things in this picture that need water to live. Put that number here _____ and draw or list five more. Be sure to color in, and label, all the water-loving features in the drawings.

It's Time We All Save WATER



Activity: Fill in the blanks with water-saving ideas.

Art by Thomas, St. Ann School, Staten Island

SAVE WATER



NEW YORK, YOUR FUTURE LOOKS DRY

Activity: Draw a picture in the crystal ball showing what a dry future would look like.

Turn the page over for another crystal ball prediction.

Art by Kathryn, I.S. 131, The Bronx

SAVE WATER



NEW YORK, YOUR FUTURE LOOKS WET

Activity: Draw a picture in the crystal ball showing what a wet future would look like.

How does this compare with your illustration on the reverse side?

Art by Kathryn, I.S. 131, The Bronx

Don't Waste Water

Don't waste water or the world will never

R N K I D

Don't waste water or the world will never

T A E

Don't waste water or the world will never

E L P S E

Don't waste water or there will be no water in the

O L W D R

Don't waste water,

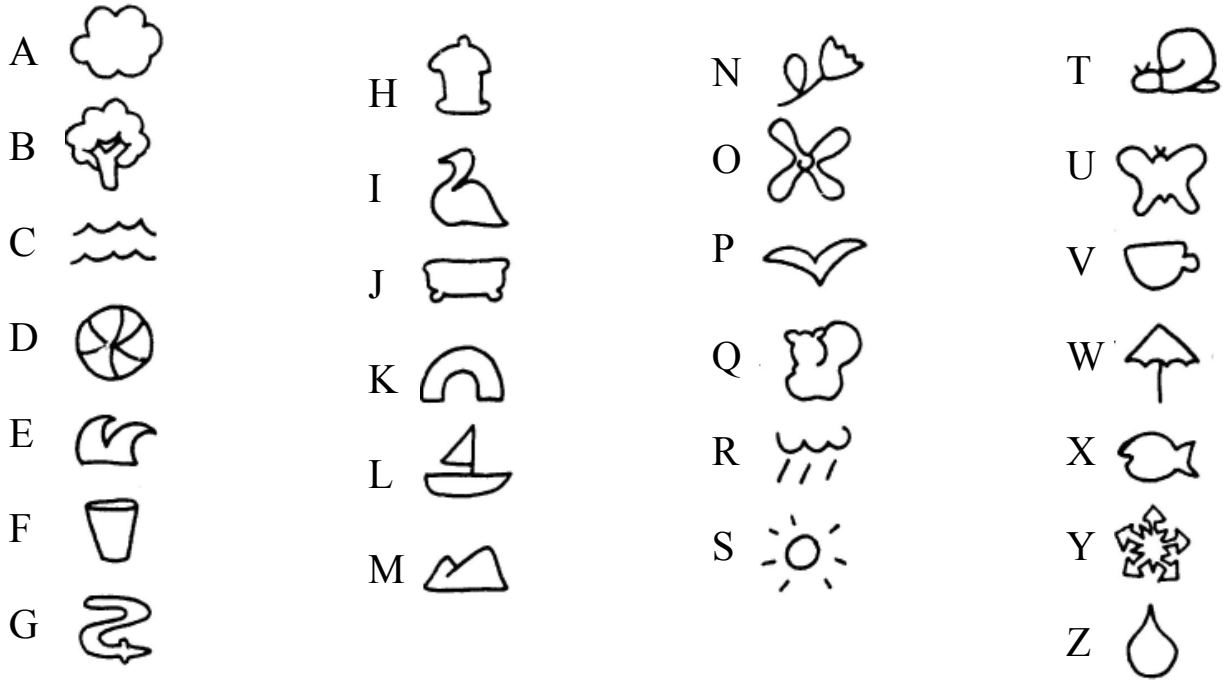
A S P L E E



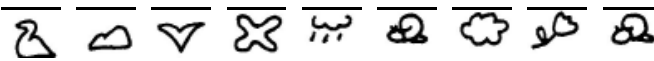
Activity: Unscramble the letters in each word to complete the poem.

*Poetry by Marilyn, P.S. 173, Manhattan
Art by Frank, St. Clare's School, The Bronx*

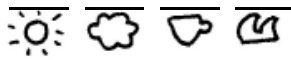
Hydro-glyphics!



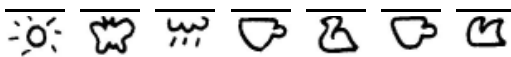
Conserving water is _____ to do.



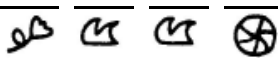
_____ clean water for me and you.



Water is essential for us to _____



We _____ it to shower and even to drive.



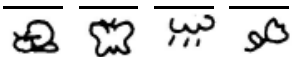
The _____ passed restrictions on its _____



So fix up your _____, don't let any loose.



Then _____ off your hose, don't drown your seeds.



Because _____ is scarce; it's just what we _____.



Activity: Each letter in the alphabet has its own symbol. Complete the poem by using the secret code. Invent your own code and try it on your friends.

Poetry by Itay, P.S. 162, Queens

DON'T DRIP N.Y. DRY!



Drip, Drip, Drip.
It's not a nice sound.
Drip, Drip, Drip!
Soon no water will be found.

Don't water your lawn
Don't wash your car
Because the water we have
Won't go very far.

Reservoirs are low
Consumption is high
Not very much rain
Is coming from the sky.

Remember
It's important to save water!

Activity: Write your own poem about water and read it to your family. Can they help save water too?

Poetry by Shanon, P.S. 95, Brooklyn

Art by Melissa, P.S. 95, Brooklyn

If You Waste Water You're a Drip

Don't Wash
New York
Down the
Drain



Activity: Write a paragraph describing how you can help your community save water.

Art by David, The Churchill School, Manhattan



Activity: Write a short story describing the City in a drought.

HINT: A drought is when there is not enough rain or snow over a long period of time to keep reservoirs filled.

Art by Eduardo, Our Lady of Refuge, The Bronx

Please Help Save Water

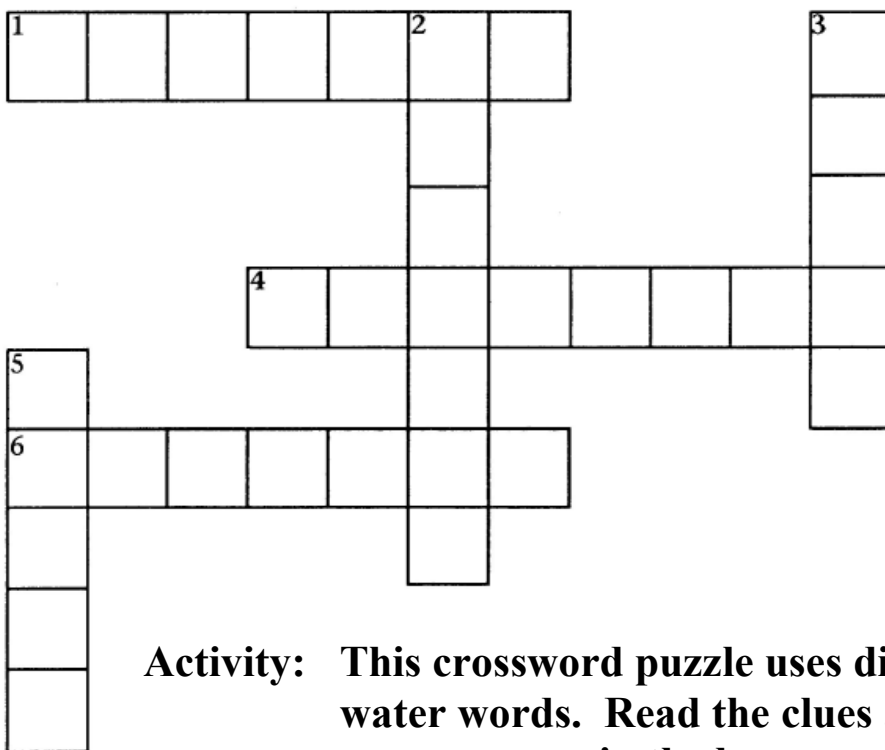
Across

1. Don't take long _____.
4. Please remember to _____ water.
6. Ask someone to fix _____ faucets.



Down

2. Don't keep water _____ when not using it.
3. Plants and animals need _____ to survive.
5. _____ faucets tightly to prevent water waste.



Activity: This crossword puzzle uses different water words. Read the clues and write your answers in the boxes. Turn the page upside down for the answer key.

1. showers 2. running 3. water 4. conserve 5. close 6. leaking

Art by Frances, St. Ann School, The Bronx

Conservation

When there is no water in the reservoir
 Then you will see
 What having no water
 Does to you and me.

Can't wash your hair
 Can't brush your teeth
 Can't wash your ears
 Can't clean your feet.

No showers, no baths
 No water to drink
 Turn on the faucet
 And still a dry sink.

There are no clean dishes
 There are no clean cups
 There's no way to wish away
 Yesterday's wash.

Green grass turned brown
 Shriveled plants on the ground
 No little creatures
 Roaming around.

So you'd better think twice
 Before you might waste
 The clean clear water
 That washes your face.

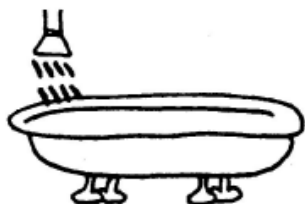
A	D	C	W	A	S	H	B	W	G	F	M	A
E	P	L	A	N	T	S	F	A	U	C	E	T
C	U	P	S	T	I	L	L	T	E	E	T	H
D	D	E	T	E	C	C	L	E	A	N	Z	T
R	E	S	E	R	V	O	I	R	S	Y	G	H
I	X	H	B	Y	O	U	J	W	H	I	R	I
N	C	O	N	S	E	R	V	A	T	I	O	N
K	W	W	I	S	H	B	K	Y	L	C	U	K
G	R	E	E	N	G	R	A	S	S	L	N	M
P	C	R	E	A	T	U	R	E	S	E	D	N
Q	R	S	I	N	K	S	V	E	F	A	C	E
S	T	U	B	A	T	H	S	T	U	R	N	O

Activity: The words that are underlined in the poem are hidden in the puzzle. Find and circle them.

Poetry by Lisa, St. Ann School, Staten Island

Weekly Water Use Report Card

Activity: Record how much water you use for a week. Use the information to answer the questions on the other side.



Make a checkmark every time you do each activity.

Weekly Totals

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT	
							How many showers did you take? _____
							How long are your showers? _____
							How many baths? _____

A non-water-saving showerhead uses **3 gallons** a minute; conserving showerheads use only **1.5 gallons** a minute. A full tub uses **36 gallons**.



SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT	
							How many times did you flush the toilet? _____

Older toilets use **5 gallons** a flush. Water-saving toilets, use only **1.28 gallons** a flush.



SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT	
							How many times did you brush your teeth? _____

Brushing your teeth with the water running uses about **1.5 gallons** each time. Turning the water off when you're not rinsing consumes approximately **0.25 gallons**.



SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT	
							How many times did you wash your hands or face? _____

Washing your hands or face with the water running uses about **3 gallons**. Turning the water off saves about **2 gallons** so it only takes **1 gallon** each time you wash.

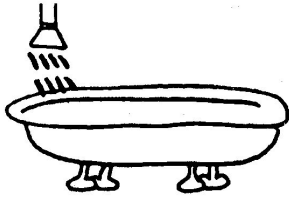


SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT	
							How many times did you wash the dishes? _____

Washing dishes with the water running uses about **15 gallons** in 10 minutes. Filling the sink or using a dishpan only uses **5 gallons**.

Water Use Calculation

Activity: Use the information from your Weekly Water Use Report Card on the other side to calculate how much water you use on an average day.

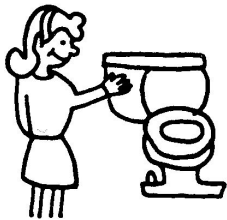


Multiply the number of showers you took ___ by the number of minutes per shower ___ by the amount of water your showerhead uses each minute (**3 or 1.5 gallons**) ___ = ___ gallons. Multiply the number of baths you took ___ by **36 gallons** = ___ gallons. Add your shower and bath totals = ___ gallons. Divide by 7 and put your answer in the box at right.

Average daily bath/shower water use:

gallons

+

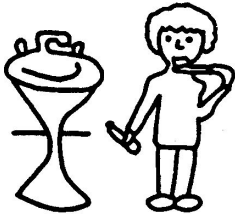


Multiply the number of times you flushed the toilet ___ by the amount of water your toilet uses with each flush (**5 or 1.28 gallons**) ___ = ___ gallons. Divide by 7 and put your answer in the box.

Average daily toilet water use:

gallons

+



Multiply the number of times you brushed your teeth ___ by the amount of water you used with each brushing (**1.5 or 0.25 gallons**) ___ = ___ gallons. Divide by 7 and put your answer in the box.

Average daily teeth-brushing water use:

gallons

+



Multiply the number of times you washed your hands or face ___ by the amount of water you used with each washing (**3 or 1 gallons**) ___ = ___ gallons. Divide by 7 and put your answer in the box.

Average daily hand and face-washing water use:

gallons

+



Multiply the number of times you did the dishes ___ by the amount of water you used (**15 or 5 gallons**) ___ = ___ gallons. Divide by 7 and put your answer in the box.

Average daily dishwashing water use:

gallons

+

Total average daily water used:

gallons

Add the average daily totals to find out how much water you use (on average) every day at home. What else can you do to save water?

Art by Amy, St. Ann School, Staten Island and Nicole, P.S. 89, Queen



This is to confirm that

has learned to watch out for leaks, opened fire hydrants, people taking long showers, and other water wasting activities. Your water-saving habits will help ensure a safe and plentiful supply of drinking water for future generations of New Yorkers. Thank you for helping to conserve water. You are now an official New York City Drip Patrol Inspector.



By order of:



Congratulations! You are now on your way to becoming an expert water saver. DEP would like to welcome you as a new member of the **New York City Drip Patrol**. With your help we will continue to protect New York City's water supply and help keep it the best in the world. Please visit our website at nyc.gov/dep to learn more about New York City's water supply system, wastewater treatment, water quality, and water conservation.

To learn more about environmental education programs and resources available from the New York City Department of Environmental Protection, visit nyc.gov/dep or email educationoffice@dep.nyc.gov.

