

Enough for Everyone



Target Audience: 3-5

Subjects: Science, Social Studies

Time: 1 hour 10 minutes

H2O University Issues Addressed:

-Human Impact

Materials

- ◆ Large mixing bowl
- ◆ 8 oz. paper cup (enough for each student)
- ◆ Food coloring

Educational Goals

Students will be able to:

- ◆ Understand the word conservation.
- ◆ Identify steps to conserve water for a growing community.

Advanced Preparation

- ◆ Fill the mixing bowl with water. Ensure that there will not be enough for everyone in your class to drink when they collect it in their 8oz. cup.

Procedure

Opening Discussion Questions

1. What do you think may happen to our limited water supply as the population grows? **(Point to make: Our water supply will continue to shrink and we must find alternate supplies of water for the future.)**
2. Fill a large mixing bowl with clean water
3. Give each student in the class an 8-oz. paper cup.
4. Have 1 student draw a cup of water from the bowl.
5. Let the class see how much water remains in the bowl. Let the students pour the water back into the bowl.
6. Have 2 students draw cups of water from the bowl repeating step 4. Keep repeating the procedure, adding a student each time.

7. At some point, add a few drops of food coloring to the water one of the students has drawn from the bowl.

(Point to make: Pollution such as what is represented in the food coloring can get into the water supply and spread to homes fairly quickly.)

Discussion Questions

1. Did you run out of water before everyone in the class could draw a full cup from the bowl?

(If so, how could you stretch the supply so that everyone gets some water?)