

ACTIVITY FOUR: ARE WE WASTING OUR WATER AT SCHOOL, HOME AND IN OUR COMMUNITY?

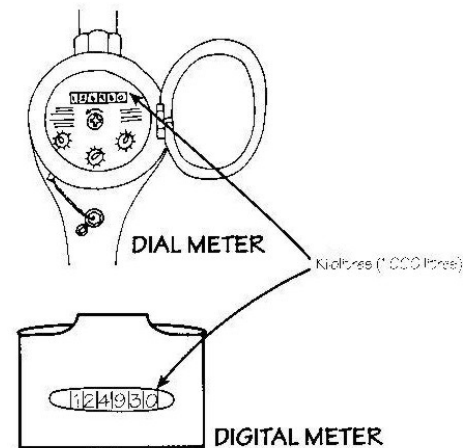
This MATHEMATICS lesson looks at water use at school, home and the local community. Learners complete a quick checklist before designing their own simple data collection sheet for dripping taps around the school.

ACTIVITY FOR THE LEARNERS:

- Give each learner the checklist on the following page to do a quick check of local patterns of water use at school, in and around their home and in their local community. They need to tick bad and good practices. *This activity can be done as a homework exercise.*
- Discuss the 'good' and 'bad' practices that they observed in their own homes and in their community and make a tally on the chalkboard of all the actions (e.g. long showers with big nozzle – 16; big cistern with slow leak – 7; low-flow shower with stop switch – 8; bottle or bag in cistern or dual flush – 4).

ACTIVITY:

1. Take your class for a walk around the school. Does your school have a water meter? Show the learners where the municipal workers read the meter each month. Let them see the water account from the municipality. If your school does not have piped water, where do you get your water? Perhaps at a community stand-pipe or pump or maybe your school collects rainwater? Show the children where the rainwater tanks are.



2. Next, walk around the school grounds. Can the children see any signs of wasteful water use? Continue around the school grounds – can the learners see any leaking taps? Send someone into the toilets – did they see any leaking taps or overflowing toilets?

TIME TO HEAD BACK TO THE CLASSROOM:

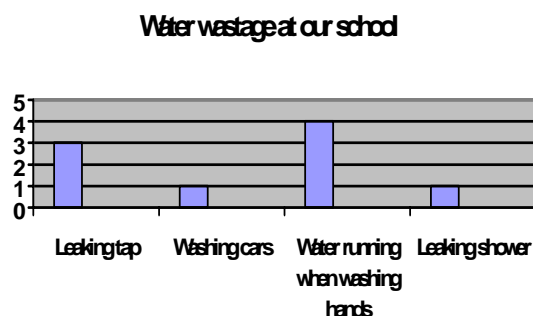
- Get each learner to design a simple sheet which will be a record of any water wastage in the school. (An example is given on the next page – this is NOT for the children to use but to give you, the teacher, an idea of what the record sheet should look like. The children may put in more or less detail if they wish).

Day	Date	Time	What I saw
e.g. Monday	31 January	7.45am	A dripping tap near the boys toilets
Monday	31 January	10.15am	A teacher washing his car at break using a hosepipe with lots of water being wasted.
Monday	31 January	13.50pm	My friend let the water run when she was washing her hands. Lots of water was wasted.
Monday	31 January	14.00pm	I saw a leaking tap near the sport field

Let the learners keep a record for an entire school day, starting from when they arrive at school, before lessons start, until the end of the day, after sport in the afternoon. They must remember not to record the same leaking tap twice!!

AS A CLASS DISCUSS:

1. What were the results? Discuss these and list them on the chalkboard.
2. Let each learner draw a bar graph showing where water is wasted in the school (see example below).



3. What could the school do to stop water being wasted?
4. What can we do to stop water being wasted?

Criteria to assess learners during this mathematics lesson

Criteria	Exceeded requirements of the Learning Outcome	Satisfied requirements of the Learning Outcome	Partially satisfied requirements of the Learning Outcome	Not satisfied requirements of the Learning Outcome
The learner made a simple record sheet to gather information about water wastage at school				
The learner used their record sheet to collect data of water wastage				
The learner drew a bar graph showing water wastage in the school				