

"Every Drop Counts" Competition Guidelines

Instructions for Teachers:

1. Competition is open to all KS2 pupils with a category for Special Needs Schools.
2. Prizes for each primary school year group P5, P6 and P7 and for the Special Needs Schools category (all ages groups):
 - a) First prize - £250 donation for the winning school in each category/ with a "goody bag" for winning pupil.
 - b) Second prize - £150 donation for the winning school in each category/ with a "goody bag" for winning pupil.
 - c) Third prize - £100 donation for the winning school in each category/ with a "goody bag" for winning pupil.
3. The pupils are asked to draw a poster to remind people of the importance of water conservation and what they can do to save water in their homes, schools and places of work.
4. Posters **MUST** be A3 size and hand drawn (**we cannot accept any ICT posters**).
5. Each poster **MUST** have the pupils name and class clearly written on the back of the poster alongside the schools name and address. **Unfortunately, any posters, which do not include this information, clearly will be disqualified.**
6. Entries should reach NI Water by 5pm Friday 4th May 2018.

7. Entries must be sent to NI Water, Schools Competition, Education Office,
Westland House (Rm16), Old Westland Road, Belfast, BT14 6TE.
8. NI Water is not responsible for any entries lost in transit. Entries will not be returned.
9. Winning schools will be notified of the results in June 2018.
10. Prizes will be distributed at an Award Ceremony at NI Waters Wastewater Heritage Centre, Duncrue Street, Belfast the week commencing 18th June 2018.
11. Winners will be required to participate in publicity surrounding the competition.
12. We may wish to reproduce the winning submissions for promotional materials or publicity purposes.

'Every Drop Counts!'

Inspiration for Teachers

Background Information

Water is our most valuable resource on earth and is essential for all living things; we cannot live without it. Water has become more precious than ever before with the impact of global warming and climate change causing weather and rainfall patterns to change because of extremes of drought and floods becoming more common.

In Northern Ireland water is something we take for granted, we get a lot of it! We use it for drinking, washing, for industry and farming. In fact, we each use approximately **153 litres** of water a day, but unfortunately, much of it is wasted. People mistakenly believe that the heavy rain we experience in this country means that we do not need to be careful with the water we use.

It is an expensive process to clean and deliver, to our homes, the water we use daily, the water treatment process uses huge volumes of electricity and energy. Water waste is not acceptable today in a world that still has millions of people who do not have access to a clean safe water supply. We all have a responsibility to conserve water where possible. In addition, the more water we take from the environment will impact negatively on the biodiversity that we all rely on.

This year our competition is asking pupils to draw a poster to remind the public how 'Every Drop Counts' highlighting the benefits of water conservation and demonstrating how we all can save water- see some examples below:

- Take a shorter shower instead of a bath
- Turn off the tap when brushing your teeth
- Collect rain water in a waterbutt to water the plants
- Fully load washing machines and dishwashers
- Using buckets to wash the car rather than a hose (a hose pipe can release as much as 18 litres of water a minute)

- Only fill the kettle with as much water as necessary
- Mend leaking taps - taps that drip once a second lose 33 litres of water a day, 5500 litres of water a year
- One flush of the toilet uses 9 litres of water- use a save a flush in the cistern

Saving water saves money, electricity and energy, which is not only good for us but also good for the environment.

We need your help to reduce our water use and protect our environment.