

6.15 Should we conserve water?

Topic: Conservation
Subtopic: Water conservation
Activity type/skill: Identifying main ideas and details
Literacy focus: Reading
Genre: Information reports

Objective

- Identify the main idea and relevant details.
- Identify irrelevant details.
- Use the main idea to locate information.

What you need

- Student worksheet (see next page)

What to do

1. Look at the first page of the student worksheet and check that students recognise the word 'conserve' as a form of the word 'conservation' they have already learned.
2. Explain that the main idea is missing from each of the paragraphs in the text. Have them read the text, then using the details as clues, choose the main idea for each paragraph and write it in the space.
3. Mark the work together. Have them take turns to read a paragraph aloud.
4. Look at the top of the second page of the student worksheet and explain that students need to read each paragraph and put a line through the sentence that is not relevant to the main idea.
5. Mark the work together and take turns to justify their choice. For example:
 - 'I crossed out the sentence: Water is the most common liquid on Earth.'
 - 'Paragraph 2 is about how plants and animals need water to survive – not about how much there is.'
6. Look at the bottom of the second page of the student worksheet and have students write the number of the paragraph where they will find information in the circle.
7. Have students take turns to justify their answers and mark their work.

Answers:

<p>A.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• We should conserve water.• People, animals and plants cannot survive without water.• The demand for clean fresh water is growing.• Water pollution is a growing problem.• There are many ways we can save water.	<p>B.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• A bath uses more water than a shower.• Water is the most common liquid on Earth.• More than 97% of the world's water is salt water found in oceans.• Smoke from factories pollutes the air.• At least 75% of the world's fresh water is stored under the ground.	<p>C.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• How can we conserve water? – 5• Why will the world need more water in future? – 3• What is water conservation? – 1• How much water do people need each day? – 2• What causes water pollution? – 4
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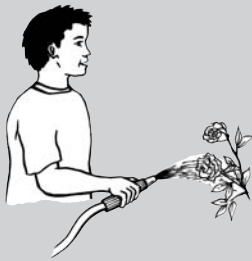
Activity fifteen

A. Should we conserve water?



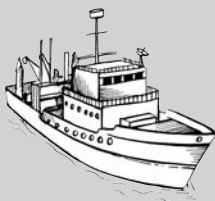
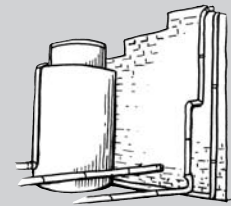
_____ If we do not conserve water our supplies of clean fresh water will run out.

_____ Humans need to drink two to three litres of clean fresh water each day to keep healthy. We use fresh water for washing, for watering our gardens so that plants can grow, for animals on our farms, for making electricity and for processes in our industries.



_____ The world's population is getting bigger and more people need water. Some climates are getting hotter and drier. This means people will need more water to keep cool and to keep their crops and gardens growing.

_____ Even places that have enough water for their population can have problems if their water supplies are polluted. When water is polluted it can kill the living things that depend on it.



_____ We can save water by preventing the pollution of our water supplies. We can also save water by using less of it.

The demand for clean fresh water is growing.

There are many ways we can save water.

We should conserve water.

People, animals and plants cannot survive without water.

Water pollution is a growing problem.

B. Water conservation

1. Water conservation means saving fresh water. If we do not conserve water our supplies of clean fresh water will run out. A bath uses more water than a shower.
2. Living things cannot survive without water. People need about 20 litres of fresh water each day to meet all their needs. We need to drink two to three litres of clean fresh water a day to keep healthy. Water is the most common liquid on Earth. We also use fresh water for washing, for watering our gardens so that plants can grow, for animals on our farms, for making electricity and for processes in our industries.
3. There is a growing demand for fresh water. The world's population is getting bigger and more people want water. (We need to find new sources of fresh water. More than 97% of the world's water is salt water found in oceans.) Some climates are getting hotter and drier. This means people will need more water to keep cool and to keep their crops and gardens growing.
4. Human activity is polluting our water. When water is polluted it can kill the living things that depend on it. Water pollution is caused by waste from houses, farms and factories flowing into streams, rivers and groundwater. Smoke from factories pollutes the air.
5. If we do not conserve water there will not be enough clean water for people in the future. We can conserve water by preventing the pollution of our water supplies. We can also save water by using less of it. At least 75% of the world's fresh water is stored under the ground.

C.

How can we conserve water?



Why will the world need more water in future?

What is water conservation?

How much water do people need each day?

What causes water pollution?