

Math and Nature

Activity 1 - How Much Water is on Planet Earth?

Water is a precious resource. All the water we have on earth right now is all we will ever have. We need to learn how to live with our water supply, use as little as possible and return what we use to the ecosystem in a clean state so we can continue to use it for a long time.

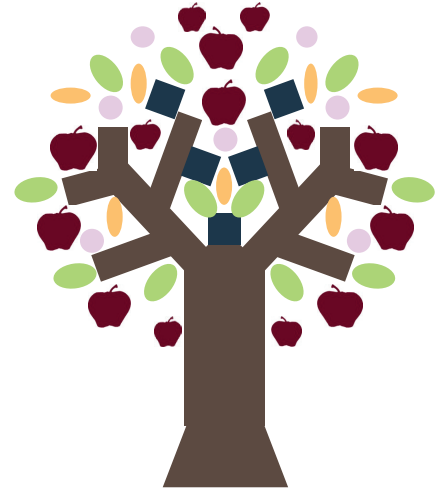
In this activity you will learn how water is distributed and how much people have to use.

You will need:

A bucket, a measuring cup, a measuring spoon, a clear bowl, an eye dropper and water

Activity Instructions:

1. Fill a bucket with water.
2. Take out two cups of water from the bucket and put it into the bowl -- this represents all the freshwater in the world. The water remaining in the bucket represents ocean saltwater.
3. Remove 1 1/2 cups of water from the bowl -- this is the freshwater contained in the ice caps and glaciers.
4. Take out 1/4 teaspoon of water from the remaining half-cup in the bowl -- this represents all of the water in the Earth's freshwater lakes; the rest is deep ground water.
5. Take 1/2 drop of water from the 1/4 teaspoon that remains -- this represents all the freshwater in streams and rivers.



Can you believe THIS is math?