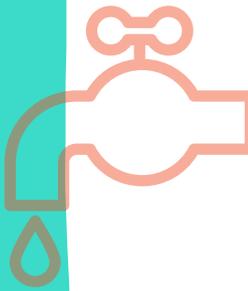


WATER CAMPAIGN



After a La Niña summer, it's time to start thinking about our water use! We've created a **water challenge** this term to help your school reduce water usage, save money and be water-wise in 2022! All you have to do is complete challenges 1, 2 or all 3 to go in the running to win some amazing prizes. The more challenges you complete, the more chances you have to win prizes. Entries close on Thursday 31st March.



TAKE THE CHALLENGE!

Each completed challenge is an entry into the draw, so the more challenges your school/centre completes, the more chances you have to WIN!

Enter your information on this fillable form and email us at teacherprograms@ceres.org.au. You could also print, enter your information and email a scanned copy. However we've made it super easy to not print so give it a go!

PRIZES!

All entries go into a draw to win one of the following prizes...

- 1 Go into the running to win 1 of 2 one-year long sponsorships to the [I Sea I Care program](#) valued at \$250. The program fosters a strong sense of 'Marine and Coastal Self-Esteem' and stewardship for the truly unique marine values in Victoria. Since 2000, the program has developed over 7500 Ambassadors as peer educators, leaders, public speakers and environmental champions.

- 2 We're offering 2 second prize winners a chance to win a half-day [CERES Water Cycles & Solutions Excursion/Incursion Program](#) (school's choice) valued at \$375 per prize. This will give two lucky winners the chance to bring a group of up to 25 students to CERES or for CERES to deliver an incursion at the school. Students will learn about the natural water cycle, urban water cycle, how macroinvertebrates (water bugs) can determine water health, and what humans do to protect our precious water sources.

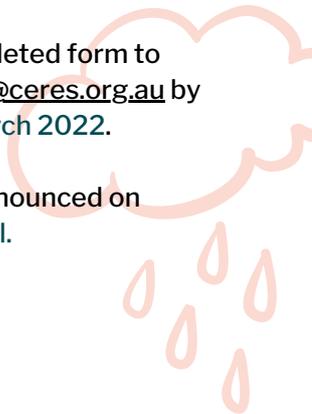
[Click here](#) to read more about our sponsor and these great prizes

We will also be treating the four winning schools to an interview featured in [Stories and News](#) on our website, as well as in our monthly CERES School Programs newsletter. We look forward to hearing how your school has changed the way you think and act about water!

IMPORTANT DATES

Submit your completed form to teacherprograms@ceres.org.au by Thursday 31st March 2022.

Winners will be announced on Tuesday 26th April.



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CERES SCHOOL AND NATURE AND CLIMATE

WATER CAMPAIGN

Challenge 1: Stop the Drip! (Water Audit)

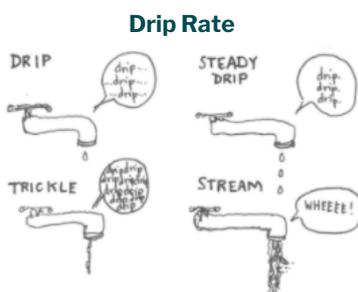
Did you know water is the most essential ingredient for life on Earth? We depend on it for almost everything we do from eating, drinking, energy and transport. Schools also use water in many different ways, from flushing toilets to watering veggie gardens!

Sometimes however, the infrastructure we have in place to use water can leak, and schools can lose up to 1195.2 litres a day from a single dripping tap or drinking fountain.

In this audit you will be investigating your school's outdoor taps and drinking fountains, to see if you can identify any drips that may be causing your school to waste water. Then using the Drip Chart provided by Sustainability Victoria, you will be able to calculate the amount of water your school could be saving once fixed!



Complete the tables below to show you have taken this challenge.



Drip Chart		
Drip type	Total litres lost per minute	Total water loss per day
No drip (N)	-	-
Drip (D) (1 drop per second)	0.005 litres per minute	7.2 litres
Steady Drip (SD)	0.08 litres per minute	115.2 litres
Trickle (T)	0.27 litres per minute	388.8 litres
Stream (S)	0.83 litres per minute	1195.2 litres

*Sustainability Victoria Water Audit

OUTDOOR TAPS

Locate 5 outdoor taps around your school and record the following information. Then use the above table to calculate the amount of water lost through drips each day.

Location	Tap type: twist (T) or timed push (TP)	Drip type: N, D, SD, T, S	Total water (litres) lost through drips each day

DRINKING FOUNTAINS

Locate 5 drinking fountain bays around your school and record the following information. Then use the above table to calculate the amount of water lost through drips each day.

Location	No. of drinking fountains	No. of drinking fountains dripping	Drip type: N, D, SD, T, S	Total water (litres) lost through drips each day (timed by no. of fountains dripping)

Now that you've audited your schools outdoor taps and drinking fountains, answer the following questions.

Did you find any drips/ leaks? (Yes / No)	
How many leaking taps or drinking fountains did you find?	

WATER CAMPAIGN

What are the next steps you can take to have these leaks fixed? Who could you reach out to get these fixed?

ResourceSmart Schools can upload this link on the following RSS actions:

- A1.1** Have you completed an audit to assess water usage and stormwater collection around your school? *Please note this does not replace a whole school water audit, but will provide supporting evidence.
- A2.4** Do you have water monitoring systems and equipment in place and are you collecting and recording data?

Challenge 2: Community Initiative

World Water Day is held on March 22nd and has been every year since 1993. This day celebrates water and raises awareness of the 2.2 billion people living without access to safe water.

Here in Victoria water is a precious commodity. We know how quickly water can run low and a drought can begin. To celebrate World Water Day and provide your school community with some useful information around Water conservation, this challenge asks you to run an event at your school and report on it on your school website, your CERES Sustainability Hub blog, or in your school newsletter. Why not all 3?

Your event could be as grand as you would like, as long as it focuses on water. Think about ways you might conserve water at school or at home. Think about where water comes from and how it is stored. Think about all the activities that people like to do on or in water!

Some ideas for this could be:

Go for the 4-minute shower challenge!

Ask families to limit their shower time to 4 minutes, record their total shower times and compare this to [Target 155](#), a water efficiency program encouraging Melburnians to limit consumption to 155L per person per day. The family with the lowest water use aim to decrease these as a class-based competition. To find out if you're meeting Target 155, look for the daily water use information on your water bill.

A fundraiser for a local organisation that looks after waterways or coastal environments.

A day at school where students and staff dress as marine or freshwater animals. Why is clean water important to these animals?

A class or assembly where students present about where water comes from in Melbourne and why we need to think about conserving it.

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Take some pictures and write a few paragraphs about your event and what the outcomes were. Reflect on what your students, your staff, or your school community have learned. What do you think this will mean for water sustainability at your school?

Publish this article on your website, on your CERES Sustainability Blog ([click here](#) to explore other schools, and contact teacherprograms@ceres.org.au to set up an account), and in your school newsletter.

Then enter a link to the article in the box below to complete the challenge.

ResourceSmart Schools can upload this link on the following RSS actions

- C1.1** *Is the whole school provided with regular information about water activities and programs?*
- C1.3** *Have you completed and uploaded at least one learning story that celebrates your water achievements onto school, departmental or sustainability websites?*
- C1.5** *Do you run school events that target water conservation and avoiding wastage?*

Depending on your event, you may also be able to tick off other actions such as:

- B1.3** *Are your classroom programs linked to practical, hands-on activities?*
- C3.5** *Do you include ideas or activities in school newsletters to families about being more water smart at home?*

Challenge 3: Rain Gauge

Have you ever monitored your rainfall? Doing so can help you become more aware of how much water is falling and whether you need to water the garden or not. This year we are in La Niña year meaning we are expecting a stormy, cool and wetter than usual summer - do you think this will affect how much rain is falling at your school?

Knowing how much rain is falling can help you think about saving water around school and perhaps other ways to save on water usage, like capturing rainwater in a water tank.

Set up a rain gauge in your schoolyard and monitor it every day for 2 weeks, filling out the table below.

Date	How much rain fell?

WATER CAMPAIGN

Date	How much rain fell?

Answer the questions below to reflect on your measurements and complete the challenge.

Q1: What did you notice? Was there lots of rainfall over the two weeks? Was there more/less rain than you would expect? Why?
Q2: Did the garden need to be watered over the last 2 weeks or was there enough rain fall over this period?
Q3: Do you have rainwater tanks? If so, how do you use them? (i.e are they connected to toilets or used for watering).
Q4: What else could you do to save water around the school?

ResourceSmart Schools can upload this link on the following RSS actions

- A2.4** Do you have water monitoring systems and equipment in place and are you collecting and recording data?
- A3.11** Are you reusing grey water as per EPA Victoria guidelines and have you contacted your local council for advice?
- A3.12** Do you reuse storm and/or grey water for toilet water?
- A4.6** Do you collect stormwater for garden watering?
- A4.7** Do you reuse stormwater for garden water supply as per EPA Victoria guidelines?
- A4.9** Do you use water tanks or alternative systems for the collection and redistribution of stormwater?

GOOD LUCK!

Name:
School:
Email address: