


# Guidance for Teachers

Sustainability first

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Great Science Share for SCHOOLS

## Equipment:

- Device to share video
- Pencils, paper and/or computers for pupils' to write questions, comments, concerns etc.

## Main Concepts:

- What can pupils do to protect water systems in various areas of their lives?
- Why is it important to work together to protect water systems from climate change?
- What are other people doing to protect water systems?

## Curriculum Linking:

- England:

Human and physical geography describe and understand key aspects of physical geography, including climate zones, biomes and vegetation belts, rivers, mountains, volcanoes and earthquakes, and the water cycle.
human geography, including types of settlement and land use, economic activity including trade links, and the distribution of natural resources including energy, food, minerals and water.

- Scotland

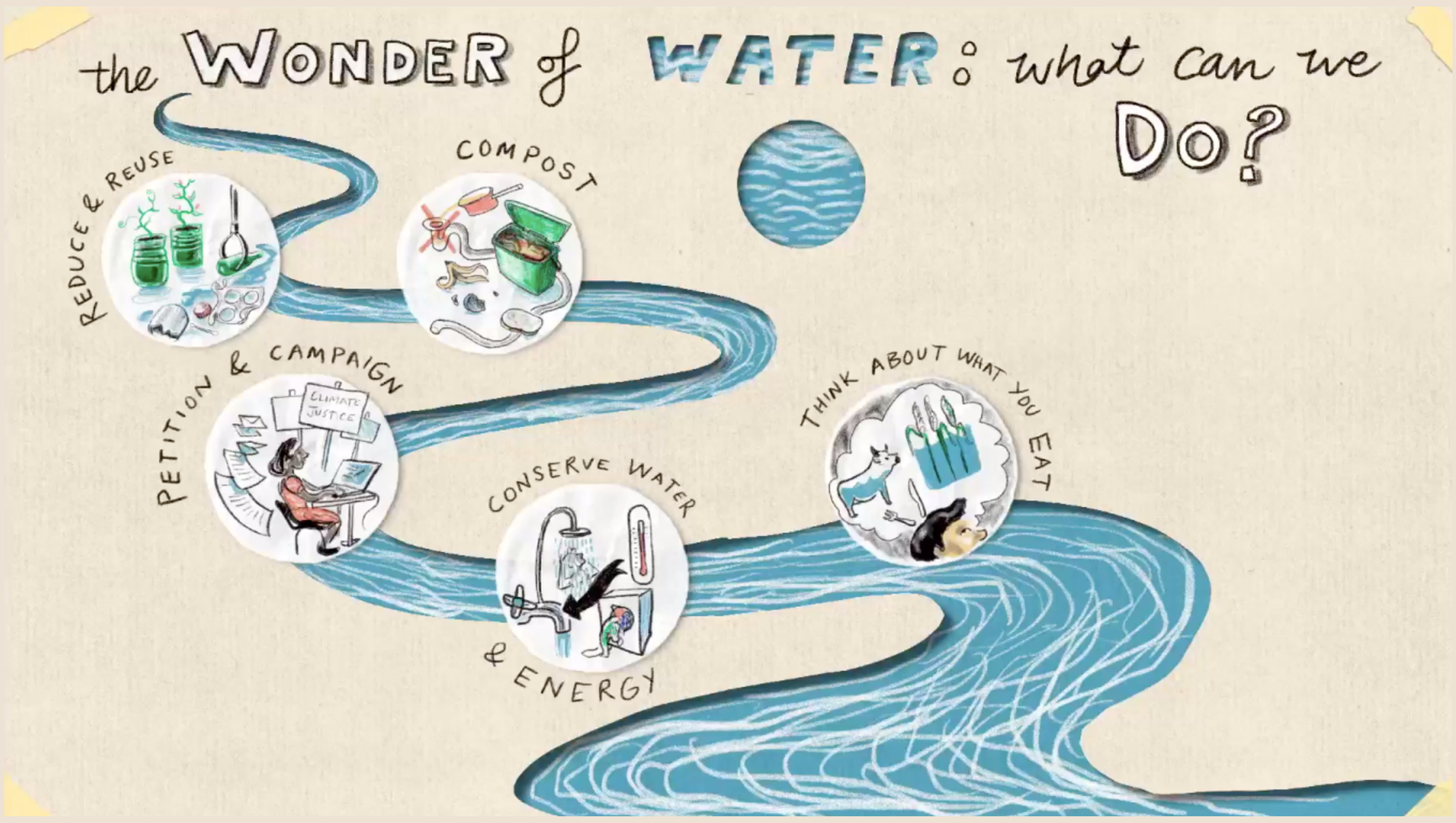
Sciences (Materials) I have investigated different water samples from the environment and explored methods that can be used to clean and conserve water and I am aware of the properties and uses of water. SCN 2-18a

- Wales

Science: They should be given the opportunity to investigate:
the environmental factors that affect what grows and lives in those two environments, e.g., sunlight, water availability, temperature.
how humans affect the local environment, e.g., litter, water pollution, noise pollution.

## Step by Step Guidance:

- Watch the video and encourage pupils in groups, or as a class, to consider how they protect water systems including rivers, oceans and lakes, through actions they can do at home, at their school and in their community.
- Ask pupils to highlight what actions they will what they will do and why they have chosen these actions to take.
- Share pupils' climate messages using our uploader - we will share them at our pupils' assembly on June 15th and can share responses from experts with pupils!




## Share with us so we can learn with you!

**Make sure to upload your work here so we can learn with you and share your work widely with waste experts at our June 15th pupils' assembly and with the older people who have written these statements!**

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## Creating Healthier Water Systems Transcription

What can we do?

Anyone, no matter how old they are, can help protect water ecosystems and help ensure communities everywhere have access to clean water.

One of the simplest things we can do is reduce the amount of pollution in rivers, lakes and oceans.

How do we do this? We can start by reducing the amount of plastic we use. Earlier, we spoke about how much of the pollution in rivers, oceans and lakes is from plastic things like bottles and food wrappers. If we use less of these items, we can ensure they won't end up in the river. We can use less plastic by using reusable bottles, containers and wrapping for our food and drinks. If we end up buying something that comes wrapped in plastic or in a plastic bottle, we can make sure to reuse it. There are many ways to use your creativity to reuse a plastic item – for example, you can grow plants in plastic bottles, or use plastic bottles to store fresh juice that you can make with your parents, or carers!

We can also reduce the amount of plastic in rivers by going litter picking along rivers! Litter picking is a great way to make sure rivers can stay clean so that fish and animals like otters and tiny little minks are safe and happy. Make sure you go with an adult!

To reduce pollution  you can make sure you don't contribute to fatbergs. How do you do this? Well, when you are cooking with an adult, make sure they don't pour oil down the sink, and you can make sure you don't flush wet wipes down the toilet. Try to also put all food waste in the food recycling or compost bin instead of letting it go down the drain while you are washing dishes.

Lastly, ask the government to help you, your community and others! In the UK, you can write to your local council or the Environment agency if you are concerned with pollution in a river or lake near you.

As I mentioned, people across the world have unequal access to clean water. You can help these people by starting petitions to get government to help, or by fundraising to support local communities to keep their water systems clean, if the government won't help them.

We can also work to conserve water, by trying to save water and energy

Less than 2.5% of all water is freshwater, or water that we can drink. As the climate is getting hotter, our water cycle is becoming unpredictable – sometimes we get lots of rain in a real downpour or flood and sometimes we don't get enough. In the UK, there is expected to be a lot less summer rainfall. We need to really look after and save our water as we cannot be sure how this will affect water supply. Currently, over 2 billion people in 40 countries experience water shortages.

## Creating Healthier Water Systems Transcription Continued

Some areas in the UK , like the south and east of England are already under something called “water stress” which is when demand for water is high compared to how much water is available. Because of this, we need to be aware of how much water we’re using and try and use less.

Also, water companies use lots of energy to clean our water so that we can use it. When we use energy, often, we release greenhouse gas into the atmosphere which contributes to the climate crisis and affects water systems – if we try and use less water, we are using less energy! This can also save us money!

These are some tips on using less water and energy:

- You can take short showers instead of baths whenever possible - this way, we aren’t using up too much water!
- We can take shallow baths instead of filling up the bathtub all the way to the top! That was we can still enjoy a nice relaxing bath while using less water.
- We can use cold water rather than hot when we can– it takes energy to heat up water, if we use cold water rather than hot water, we are using less energy.
- We can ask our parents and carers to make sure washing machines and dishwashers are full before using them so that we can use them less and use less water.
- We can water plants in the garden with a watering can and not a hosepipe – this saves lots of water!
- We can keep an eye of for leaky loos – does your toilet make a lot of noise? Investigate with your parents or carers – leaky loos are on of th main causes of water waste in homes in the UK!
- We can make sure to turn off taps while brushing our teeth or when they’re not in use.

Another thing you can do is to think about what you eat. Some foods, like beef and rice, require lots and lots of water to produce. Eating these foods occasionally, instead of all the time, can help use conserve water! Talk to your parents or carers to see if this is possible – even if you can’t make changes right away, it is always helpful to be mindful!

Let’s start following these tips today so we can ensure a healthy planet and healthy water ecosystems!