

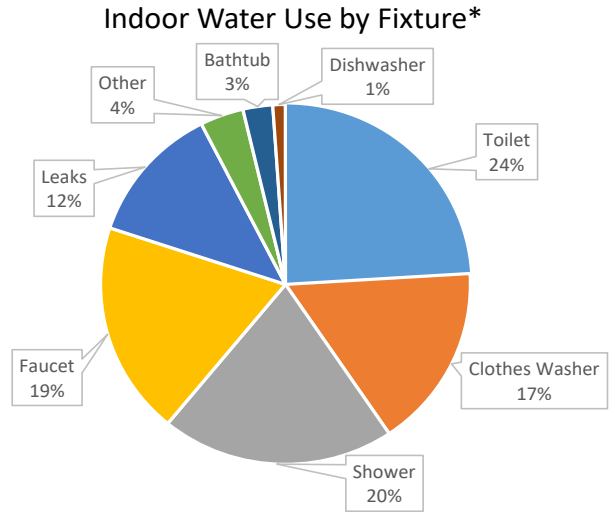
# Environmental Education: Drinking Water and Being Water Wise

## Weekly Water Use Chart (Grades K-3)

### Background Information

Drinking water for the Greater Victoria Water System is currently provided from the Sooke and Goldstream watersheds. Together these watersheds comprise 10,927 hectares and include five surface reservoirs or lakes. These reservoirs collect and store runoff from precipitation, mostly in the form of rain. Collected water is treated before being distributed to our homes as clean tap water.

In the capital region, we use an average of **232** litres of water per person, per day. Most of our water use (**72%**) occurs indoors. Of all indoor water use, approximately **65%** occurs in one room — the washroom. It is important to be aware of where and how we use water. Awareness allows us to better protect and conserve our drinking water.



*Did you know... 232 litres is the same as 58 milk jugs filled with water? That's a lot of water!*



### Activity Instructions

Use the provided table (or make your own) to record washroom water use throughout the day. Every time you use water in the washroom colour in a water drop. The provided table allows for documenting water use for flushing of toilets, washing hands, brushing teeth and bathing. At the end of each day add up all the coloured water drops to see how many times you used water in the washroom. Before recording weekly water use, have students hypothesis how much water they will use or which fixture will be used the most. Did you use water as many times as you expected?

### Discussion Questions

Did you use more or less water than you thought?

Which category had the most water drops coloured in? Which had the least?

Are there some ways you could be water wise in the washroom?

- water efficient fixtures (low flow toilets, low flow shower heads, faucet aerators, etc.)
- behaviour changes (shorter showers, shower instead of a bath, only fill the tub half way, turn tap off when brushing teeth, only flush flushables, do not flush wipes, hair, dental floss, garbage)

What other ways do we use water indoors?

- cooking, cleaning, laundry, washing clothes

### Extensions

Complete the water use table multiple times:

- before and after brainstorming ways to be water wise
- during different seasons
- complete a chart that includes the whole family's water use
- create a new chart and include all the ways you use water at home (washing dishes, laundry, cooking, etc.)




















































































\* Chart values are 2014 estimates obtained from the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)

# My Weekly Water Use

Name:

Date:

Record how much water you use during the week by colouring a water drop each time you do one of the activities below.






























































































































	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<b>Flush Toilet</b> 	       	       	  		
<b>Shower or Bath</b> 	   	   	   	   	   
<b>Wash Hands</b> 	   	   	   	   	   
<b>Brush Teeth</b> 	   	   	   	   	   
<b>Daily Total</b> Count how many water drops you coloured each day.					

# My Weekly Water Use

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Record how much water you use during the week by colouring a water drop each time you do one of the activities below.

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Weekly Total
<b>Flush Toilet</b> 	        	       	       	       	       	
<b>Shower or Bath</b> 	   	   	   	   	   	
<b>Wash Hands</b> 	       	       	       	       	       	
<b>Brush Teeth</b> 	   	   	   	   	   	
<b>Daily Total</b> How many water drops did you colour each day?						