

# Design a water saver kit

Potable water or drinkable water is a limited resource. Everyone needs to do their bit to conserve water. Sewage is about 99% water so it makes sense that we recycle it. Pumping Stations pump sewage to treatment plants where the water is treated. Once treated, the recycled water is safe to go back to rivers and bays and can be used for irrigation. Some households have purple pipes that carry treated, recycled water to homes so they can use it for gardening, flushing toilets and washing clothes in their washing machines. Purple coloured taps indicate these taps contain recycled water.

Households use up more than 67% of Melbourne's total water use. That is quite a big chunk! Our population is growing all the time which puts more and more pressure on our water supply. Climate change is also making rainfall less reliable. This means it is important for all of us to do our bit and save water where we can. Let's investigate what we can do to meet our target of 155 litres per person per day.

**In the next activity, you will design a kit that includes 8 small items that will educate and help your friends to save water in the home. You will decorate this kit and give it to a friend as a gift.**

*Find a partner. In pairs, follow the instructions listed below to make your water saver kit.*

## What you need

- A small box
- Coloured markers and/or materials to decorate your box
- Various materials (use recyclable materials where possible) for your items
- Cardboard and paper



## What to do

1. Find or make a box that you would like to use as your water saving kit.  
(You may want to make more than one kit to hand out to more friends or keep for yourselves).
2. Give your water saving kit an interesting name that describes what it does.
3. Decorate the box so it looks attractive.
4. Brainstorm 12 ways you can save water in the home. You may like to visit the **Melbourne Water website for water saving tips** ([melbournewater.com.au](http://melbournewater.com.au)) if you need more help. You are free to research other websites that might be helpful too. Be sure to include inside and outside water saving tips.
5. Choose the top eight ideas out of the 12 you came up with.
6. Think of one way that you can remind people to save water in the home for each idea with an item (recyclable) that you can include in your water saver kit. For example, you can remind people to remember to turn the tap off when not using the water in the kitchen by designing a fun picture of a water droplet with a smiley face that your friend can stick on the tiles behind the kitchen tap.
7. Another idea is to design a device to help people keep showers to less than four minutes to include in your kit.
8. When you have all the items in your water saver kit, attach a small card to each item that explains what your friend needs to do with the item and how it is conserving water. A few sentences will be enough.
9. Gift your water saver kit to a friend. Challenge them to make their own water saver kit to pass on to more friends.
10. Make sure you also follow the water saving tips so we can all do our bit.

**Thank you for your help in conserving precious drinking water and helping the planet be more sustainable.**

