

WATER FOOTPRINT

Watch this video with your class before completing the 'Water Footprint' activity
'Where is water?' <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=b1f-G6v3voA>

Students will learn about physical and virtual water and be able to calculate their own water footprint with the questions below. Students will just need to track their answers for each question to be able to calculate their results at the end.

How many times a week do you shower?

- a) 1-2 times a week (1 point)
- b) 3-4 times a week (2 point)
- c) 5-6 times a week (3 points)
- d) 7 or more times a week (4 points)

How long does your typical shower last?

- a) Less than 5 minutes (1 point)
- b) 5-10 minutes (2 points)
- c) 10-15 minutes (3 points)
- d) More than 15 minutes (4 points)

If you consume red meat, how many times a week do you consume it (e.g. beef, pork)?

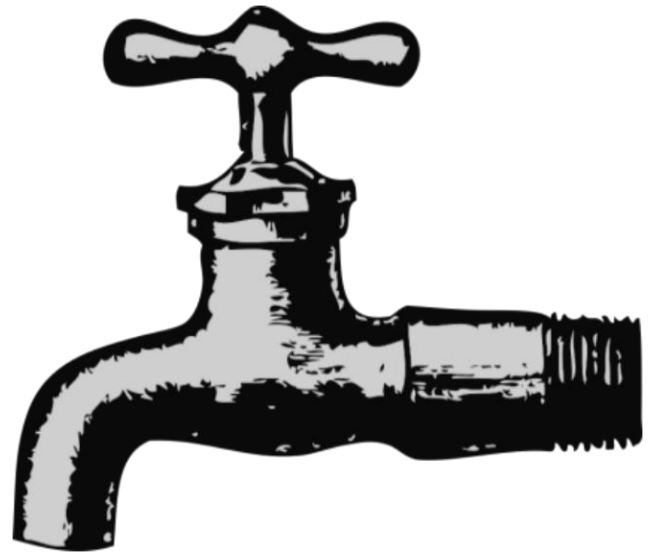
- a) Never (0 points)
- b) 1-2 times a week (1 point)
- c) 3-4 times a week (3 points)
- d) 5 or more times a week (5 points)

Do you drink tap water or bottled water?

- a) Always tap water (1 point)
- b) A mix of both (2 points)
- c) Always bottled water (3 points)

How often do you go shopping for clothes?

- a) Always never (1 point)
- b) Every couple of months (2 points)
- c) Once a month (2 points)
- d) Once a week (5 points)



How many hours a day do you spend in front of a screen (TV, computer, phone, etc.)?

- a) Less than 1 hour (1 point)
- b) 1-3 hours (2 points)
- c) 3-5 hours (3 points)
- d) More than 5 hours (4 points)

What do you do with your old clothing?

- a) Donate or recycle (0 points)
- b) Burn (1 point)
- c) Throw it away (3 points)

How do you usually get to school?

- a) Walk or bike (0 points)
- b) Keep it in my closet (1 point)
- c) Carpool with friends (3 points)
- d) Get a ride to school (4 points)

Now add up your points to calculate your own water footprint!

4-9 points = Below Average

10-15 points = Average

16-28 points = Above Average

Physical Water: direct uses of water, water that we use for drinking, showering, washing hands and flushing toilets

Virtual Water: non-direct uses of water, water that we can't see, touch, taste or feel, and it makes up a big part of our water footprint

The average water usage per Canadian is:

Physical Water = 250 litres per day

Peel – Physical Water = 218 litres per day

Canada - Virtual Water = 6400 litres per day

Class Discussion after exercise:

Think about some adjustments in your own life that you can make to help conserve our water?

- Just a 10-minute shower can use up to 85 L of water
- A pair of jeans uses 8500L for just 1 pair, so do really need that new pair?