



## Leaking Toilets and Taps/ Taps Left On School Water Audit

Washrooms use more water than anything else in your school. Toilets, urinals and showers are important parts of every school, but they can also waste lots of water. One leaking toilet can waste up to **200 litres** of water each day. A dripping tap can waste up to **12 litres** of water each day.

**Toilet with Tank:** To check for leaks in toilets that have tanks, put 4-5 drops of food colouring in the toilet tank and wait 5-10 minutes. If the water in the bowl becomes coloured, the toilet is leaking.

**Tankless Toilet:** Checking for leaks in tankless toilets is a little trickier. You can listen to hear running water, or look to see if there is water moving on the insides of the bowl above the water line. OR, dry the inside of the bowl above the water line with paper towel. Wait 10 minutes without flushing the toilet. If the inside of the bowl above the water line is wet, then the toilet is leaking.

**Taps:** To check for whether a tap is leaking or it has been left on, first check for water dripping from the tap. If water is dripping, try to turn the tap fully off. If it turns off, record the tap as "Left on". If it doesn't turn off any more, but continues to drip, record the tap as "Leaking".

Use this chart or create your own to represent the toilets and taps in your school.

<b>Location:</b> e.g. boys washroom, science room	<b>Toilets</b> - record # leaking/total #	<b>Leaking Taps</b> – record # leaking/total #	<b>Taps left on</b> – record # left on/total #	<b>Notes:</b> specific location of leaking toilets/taps
e.g. Boys washroom	1 leak/4 toilets	0/4	1/4	Toilet closest to door leaks



For a leaking tap, use a measuring cup and stopwatch to measure how much water is leaking. Time how long it takes for the tap to drip 100ml. How much water would that be over the course of a day, a week or a year?

If you find leaks in toilets or taps, be sure to let your teacher or the caretaker know. If taps are being left on, consider a campaign to remind students to turn off taps.