



WATER/WASTE CAMPAIGN

REFILLABLE WATER BOTTLES

Refilling our own water bottles from the tap or water fountain is helpful both for water conservation and waste reduction reasons:

- Tap water is carefully treated and tested and is inexpensive.
- Bottled water is often transported large distances.
- Disposable water bottles are recycled or thrown away.

PRE-CAMPAIGN AUDIT

1. How many water fountains are in the school and are they easily accessible to students?
2. Are bottles of water available in vending machines or are they sold in the school cafeteria? If you can, find out how many of these are sold each day.

Ask a number of students the following questions.

3. Do you drink water from school water fountains? Why? Why not?
4. Do you buy bottled water? If so, when?
5. Estimate how many bottles of water you use each week.
 - How many are single use?
 - How many are refillable?
6. What do you think would help you decide to use a refillable water bottle more often? Choose any that apply.
 - The cost of bottled water.
 - Information about the environmental impact of bottled water and bottles.
 - Information about local water quality testing.
 - Free refillable water bottle.
 - Reminders.
 - Seeing classmates using refillable bottles.
 - Other?



POST CAMPAIGN AUDIT

1. Was the campaign a success? Did it achieve your goals?
2. What did students like about the refillable water bottles campaign?
3. What did students dislike about the refillable water bottles campaign?
4. What would you do differently next time?

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Ideas for Campaigns

1. Audit the number of water bottles that are used in your school by students each week. To do this, ask for the vending machine information, interview cafeteria employees for sales, or sort recycling containers for water bottles. Communicate this number to students with posters, announcements or newsletter items.
2. Create posters, a website or a blog that share information about how bottled water is made, where various waters come from, how they are transported, provide information about how many bottles end up in landfill or the process and energy used to recycle bottles.
3. Provide information about how tap water in your community is treated and compare the price of tap water to a variety of bottled waters.
4. Have a "Bring a refillable water bottle week" at your school and encourage students to give up disposable water bottles for a week.
5. Set up water stations where students can get ice water, and include ideas for keeping refillable water bottles clean and healthy.
6. Raise money to install a water bottle refilling station at your school.



ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

For information about drinking water quality, issues and activities:

<http://www.safewater.org/>

CURRICULUM CONNECTIONS

Kindergarten Social Studies: Outcomes: RWK.1 RWK.2
Grade 2 Science: Outcome: Health Education: Outcome: USC2.4
Grade 5 Science: Outcome: HB5.1 Social Studies: Outcome: DR5.2
Grade 8 Social Studies: Outcomes: RW8.1 RW8.2. RW8.3
High school /environmental club campaigns