Project Learning Tree Standards-Based FCAT-Style Activities

Every Drop Counts

Teacher Page

Students practice FCAT skills while learning about the ways that water is wasted and how it can be conserved.

GRADE LEVEL: 4th and 5th grades

ACADEMIC OUTCOMES/LESSON OBJECTIVES:
- Students will study a chart introducing them to the concept of water conservation.
- Students will respond to FCAT-Style questions and prompts in Reading, Writing, Math, and Science.

SUNSHINE STATE STANDARDS ASSESSED:
- (LA.4.4.2.3) writes informational/expository essays that contain introductory, body, and concluding paragraphs. (LA.5.4.2.3) writes informational/expository essays that state a thesis with a narrow focus, contain introductory, body, and concluding paragraphs.
- (MA.A.3.2.3) adds, subtracts, and multiplies whole numbers, decimals, and fractions, including mixed numbers, and divides whole numbers to solve real-world problems, using appropriate methods of computing, such as mental mathematics, paper and pencil, and calculator.
- (SC.D.1.2.3) knows that the water cycle is influenced by temperature, pressure, and the topography of the land.
- (LA.4.1.6.3) selects from a variety of simple strategies, including the use of phonics, word structure, context clues, self-questioning, confirming simple predictions, retelling, and using visual cues, to identify words and construct meaning from various texts, illustrations, graphics, and charts. (LA.5.1.6.3) uses context clues to determine the meanings of unfamiliar words.

RESOURCES:
Florida Project Learning Tree Web site - http://www.sfrc.ufl.edu/plt/
Florida Department of Education Web site - http://www.firn.edu/doe/

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Answer Key:

1. LA.4.4.2.3, LA.5.4.2.3 Use the 6-point Writing rubric.
2. d) MA.A.3.2.3
3. c) SC.D.1.2.3
4. d) LA.4.1.6.3, LA.5.1.6.3

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Student Handout

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WRITING

1. Our society uses lots of water for washing, flushing, cleaning, drinking, and watering. Think about the ways that people waste water during their daily lives. Write to explain 3 kinds of water waste you have noticed at school, at home, or in your neighborhood. *NOTE: Write your response to question 1 on another sheet.*

MATH

This table is adapted from the Project Learning Tree activity, "Every Drop Counts."

Typical Water Uses at a School and Home

Ways Water is Used	Water Used by the Usual Method	Water Used by the Conservation Method
Flushing a Toilet	Conventional toilet uses 3.5-7 gallons per flush	Ultra low volume (ULV) toilet uses 1.6 gallons per flush
Washing Hands	Water left running uses 2 – 5 gallons	Water off while lathering uses 0.5 – 1 gallon
Drinking Water	From a water fountain uses 0.25 gallons	From a bottle or cup uses 0.1 gallon
Brushing Teeth	Water running the whole time uses 2 – 5 gallons	Water off except to rinse uses 0.25 – 0.5 gallons
Showering for Five Minutes	Conventional showerhead uses up to 8 gallons per minute	Low-flow showerhead uses 2.5 gallons per minute

2. Based on information in the chart titled, "Typical Water Uses at a School and Home," which **conservation method** saves the most water?

   a. Washing Hands
   b. Drinking Water
   c. Brushing Teeth
   d. Showering

Name: **Date:**

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SCIENCE

3. In the United States, one-half of our drinking water comes from groundwater. Which of the following does the most to refill our groundwater resources?

   a. condensation
   b. evaporation
   c. precipitation
   d. transpiration

READING

4. Based on context clues in the table titled, "Typical Water Uses at a School," what is the meaning of the word "conventional"?

   a. conservation-related
   b. new technology
   c. ultra-low volume
   d. the usual way it's done

Name:	**Date:**

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