



## Pre-Conference Package for Teachers

### This package includes:

- Discussion questions and answers
- What you can do in your school and community
- Where does your drinking water come from?
- Water Diary (can be used before or after conference)
- Group activity form

### Materials:

- White board and markers/flipchart paper and markers/chalk board and chalk to write down ideas generated from the wordstorm session.

Thanks for registering for the Generating Momentum for our World: *Water for All* Conference! This package will assist you in preparing your students for the topic of Water for All. Following the class discussion you can lead a wordstorming session on “what students can do to take action” on these issues! Use the “What you can do in your school and community” sheet to help generate ideas, or fill in the gaps. Once ideas have been generated please fill out the **group activity form** with an idea that you and your students would like to organize and **fax it back to MCIC before the conference!**

### Questions to start discussion

1. How much fresh water do we have on the planet?
2. How many litres of water does the average Canadian use per day?
3. How many litres of water do we need in order to meet all of our basic needs?
4. How many people in the world do NOT have access to clean drinking water?
5. How many people in the world do NOT have access to proper sanitation?
6. Which one of the Millennium Development Goals deals specifically with water and sanitation?

### Answers

1. 97% of all water is salt water and only 2.5% is fresh water. Of this 2.5% only 0.007% is accessible through surface water or ground water.
2. The average Canadian uses 329 litres of water per day for cooking, cleaning, drinking etc.
3. In order to meet all of our basic needs each person requires 20-50 litres of water per day.
4. 1.1 billion people do not have access to clean drinking water
5. 2.6 billion people do not have access to sanitation, meaning no toilet facilities eg, outhouse or latrine. They have to relieve themselves in public, in the woods or defecate in use plastic bags.
6. Goal #7: Ensure Environment Sustainability-- **Halve the number of people without sustainable access to safe drinking water and basic sanitation**

### Discussion Questions

1. What do you think would happen if we suddenly had no access to clean drinking water?
2. There are some communities in Canada and the many communities in the developing world that do not have access to clean drinking water, is there anything that you can do to help change this?



## WHAT YOU CAN DO IN YOUR SCHOOL AND COMMUNITY

Below is a list of ideas to help raise awareness and take action on the issues of water! Creativity is encouraged so if you have a new idea that is not on the list please feel free to combine, change, invent or pursue another idea!

Good luck and we look forward to hearing about your plans!

1. Put posters up in your school
2. Educate students on the importance of your topic:
  - Classroom presentations
  - Movies/Films
  - Special guest speakers
  - Simulation games
3. Play "Are you more concerned about a better world than a 7<sup>th</sup> grader" in your school
4. Call MCIC (204) 987-6420 and find out which international development organizations are working on water issues and find out how to get involved
5. Create a water diary and keep track of how much water you use in a week
6. Make buttons and wear them!
7. Research ways you can save water at school and talk to your principal
8. Have a meal that raises awareness about food and water
9. Organize a water bottle free zone in your school or home  
For more info visit: <http://www.insidethebottle.org/>
10. Create a banner and invite students to sign it
11. Organize a meeting with local politicians
12. Set-up Toilet Tolls in your school for more information visit:  
<http://www.cpar.ca/globalkidz/files/Toilet%20Tolls.pdf>
13. Write an article for your school or community newspaper or start a blog on the internet
14. Create a petition and get as many students, teachers, parents, friends, organizations, community members and politicians to sign it. Present it to the local media or politicians (or anyone else you have in mind)
15. Hold a fundraiser, here are some fundraising ideas:
  - Concert
  - Talent Show
  - Garage Sale
  - Bake Sale
  - Art exhibit
  - Supper
  - Silent Auction
  - Hair Shaving/dying
  - Winter/summer/spring/fall fair
  - BBQ's
  - School Dance
  - Book sales

- Coffee house
- Create and sell a cook book or calendar

- Sell Fair Trade Chocolate bars (contact MCIC for an information package)
- Fashion show

16. Create a podcast or radio show

17. Create a video

18. Create a Mural

19. Organize a learning session for member of your school and community

20. Submit letters to the editor of your school paper, local and national newspapers and magazines

21. Create your own zine

22. Create a theatre piece or skit

23. Be creative!

Check out the United Nations Internationals days of the year calendar and organize and event on one of their special days like March 22<sup>nd</sup> World Water Day:

[http://www.unac.org/en/news\\_events/un\\_days/international\\_days.asp](http://www.unac.org/en/news_events/un_days/international_days.asp)

**This year is the International Year of Sanitation!**

### **Resources**

Manitoba Council for International Cooperation  
 Generating Momentum  
 Our World  
 Make Poverty History  
 School2School  
 World Beat  
 Millennium Campaign

www.mcic.ca  
 www.generatingmomentum.com  
 www.ourworld.ca  
 www.makepovertyhistory.ca  
 www.school2school.net  
 www.earthbeat.sk.ca  
 www.millenniumcampaign.org

## Do you know where your drinking water comes from?

Manitobans either get their water from two sources: ground water-meaning wells, or surface water lakes and rivers. Where does your community get its drinking water from? If your community is not listed here, go to google.ca to search your town's website. A listing of water services should be available for viewing or call your municipal office!

### Pick the correct answer

#### Beausejour

- a) ground water b) surface water

If your answer is b name the water source: \_\_\_\_\_

#### Morden

- a) ground water b) surface water

If your answer is b name the water source: \_\_\_\_\_

#### Gimli

- a) ground water b) surface water

If your answer is b name the water source: \_\_\_\_\_

#### Winnipeg

- a) ground water b) surface water

If your answer is b name the water source: \_\_\_\_\_

#### Brandon

- a) ground water b) surface water

If your answer is b name the water source: \_\_\_\_\_

#### Roblin

- a) ground water b) surface water

b) If your answer is b name the water source: \_\_\_\_\_

Answers:

Beausejour: Ground water  
Morden: Minnewastota Lake  
Gimli: Ground water  
Winnipeg: Shoal Lake  
Brandon: Assiniboine River  
Roblin: Ground wells



# Water Diary



## How much do you use?

People need at least 50 liters (13 gallons) of water a day for drinking, sanitation, bathing and cooking. How much water do you use when you take a shower, flush the toilet or brush your teeth?

Track your water usage for a day and calculate how many buckets that equals.

How many minutes did you shower? \_\_\_\_\_ x 8 = \_\_\_\_\_ liters

(If you took a bath instead, put 180 liters)

How many times did you brush your teeth? \_\_\_\_\_ x 4 = \_\_\_\_\_ liters

How many times did you wash your hands? \_\_\_\_\_ x 4 = \_\_\_\_\_ liters

How many dishwasher loads were run? \_\_\_\_\_ x 76 = \_\_\_\_\_ liters

How many loads of clothing were washed? \_\_\_\_\_ x 40 = \_\_\_\_\_ liters

How many times did you flush the toilet? \_\_\_\_\_ x 11 = \_\_\_\_\_ liters

How many glasses of water did you drink? \_\_\_\_\_ x 0.25 = \_\_\_\_\_ liters

Add all the numbers in the right column to find out the total liters of water you used. \_\_\_\_\_ liters

Divide that number by 8 to find out about how many 2-gallon buckets that would be. \_\_\_\_\_ buckets

(Sourced from Mennonite Central Committee Fun Page)

<http://www.pennypower.org/waterres/WaterFunSheet.pdf>





## Group Activity Plan

We are excited that you have signed up as participants for the **Generating Momentum for Our World: Water for All** middle years conference.

As you know, one of the purposes of the conference is to help you plan your own group event to raise awareness around the issue of access to water. In order to help the day run smoothly, we need your school to complete this form and **fax it back one week before the conference date!** The fax number is **(204) 956-0031**, and if you have any questions, you can always call us at **(204) 987-6420**. Please fill in the form below of what you are thinking of doing at your school or in your community after the conference. It's okay if you change your plan after the conference. This early information will help us organize the day!

Thanks for your enthusiasm, and we look forward to receiving your Activity Plans!

School: \_\_\_\_\_

Teacher: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Students: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

### ***What is your message/goal?***

### ***How will you share it?***

### ***When* might the activity take place?**

***Who*** do you want to get the message out to?

***How*** will your activity help get people involved in the issue of water?

**What** will you need (skills/materials/tools) in order to plan a successful activity or event?

***Other comments or ideas?***

