



Save the Children Aotearoa, NZ Child, Youth and Schools Programme

The United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child is an agreement by countries who have promised to protect children's rights. It is the most widely ratified treaty in the world. Aotearoa, New Zealand, has ratified this convention, which means that the government has an obligation to ensure these rights are fulfilled. Save the Children NZ's education programme aims to empower tamariki, kaiako and whānau to learn about, respect and uphold children's rights.

WORLD WATER DAY

Teaching resource - Primary



Save the Children

Article 24 of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child states that every child has the **right** to the best possible health. This includes access to clean **water**. World Water Day is an annual UN observance day that highlights the importance of freshwater. This year's theme is **valuing** water.

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WAI **water**



**Save the
Children**





Save the Children

VALUING WATER

LOWER PRIMARY

Objective: Students will appreciate that water is used and **valued** for many different reasons.

Curriculum Links: Societal attitudes and values (Health and PE), people and the environment (Health and PE), rights and responsibilities, management of resources (Health and Social sciences).

Discuss



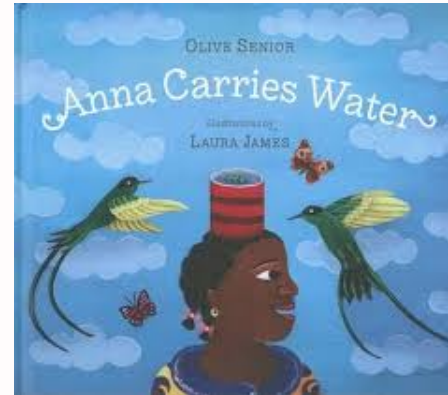
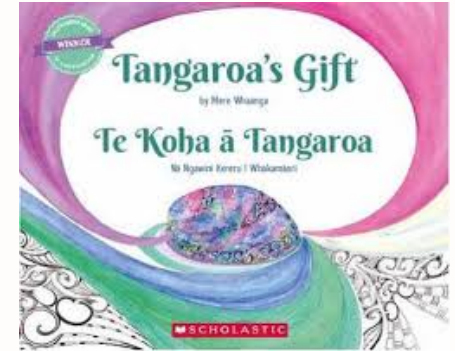
Children have **rights**. Clean water is a **right**. Why is it so important that all children have clean water?

Do you think that all children in the world have **equal** access to water? Why do you think this is?

People **use** and **value** water for different reasons. What are some of the ways that you **use** water?

Read

[Tangaroa's Gift](#) by Mere Whaanga, or watch a reading [here](#).



[Anna Carries Water](#) by Olive Senior or watch a reading by the author [here](#).

Play

For PE, do a water relay! Each team gets only one cup of water. Children must pour their cup of water between team members and aim to spill as little as possible while they run. Use this as a discussion prompt for the value of water.

Many areas of New Zealand are experiencing drought. Play this game to learn about water-saving. Click [here](#).





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VALUING WATER

UPPER PRIMARY

Objective: Students will appreciate that water is **valued** for many different reasons. People use the arts to show that they **value** water.

Curriculum Links: People and the environment (Health and PE), rights and responsibilities, management of resources (Health and Social sciences).

Discuss



Access to water is a **right**. Why is it so important that this is a fundamental right?

Do you think that all children in the world have **equal** access to water? Why do you think this is?

People **value** water for different reasons. What are some of the things that you value about water?

Water in the Arts

Water is represented heavily in the arts because it is so highly valued by people. Expose students to a range of water in the arts, and have them create their own piece to represent how they value water. Students may wish to write a poem, a dance, a piece of visual art, a story or a song.

Listen to Waiata

[Waiaroha](#), by Rob Ruha and Maisy Rika. Read the translation. How is water used to represent love?

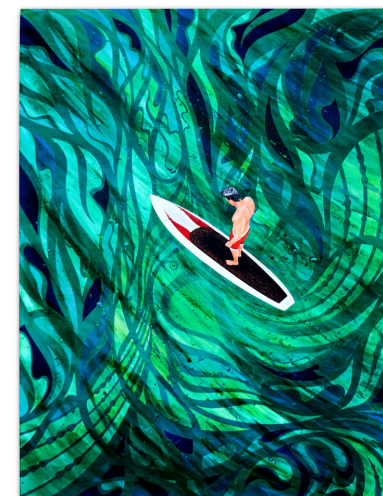
[Tangaroa Whakamautai](#), by Maisy Rika. Read the translation. What do you think Maisy values about water?

Read

This [water poem](#) by Olivia Taylor.

Appreciate

Check out this [painting](#) by Kiwi artist Shane Hansen. What do you think Shane appreciates about water? What does the water represent? Use your library or Google to find other water inspired art.



VALUING WATER



*Teacher directions: Use a graffiti strategy to identify the different ways we value water. Write each of these headers on a separate piece of butchers paper, and spread around the classroom. Students write or draw the ways they **value** and use water under the different categories. Share, discuss and display.*

Reflection discussion: How do you think these posters would differ for children in different countries?

Leisure and Fun

Economy

Daily Life

Nature

Cultural and Spiritual

Other



WATER NEWS CHALLENGE

Go to kiwi kids news website. www.kiwikidsnews.co.nz

Use the search bar to find articles to answer these questions.



Which lake in the South Island recently had its old name restored?

In which town did New Zealand's largest water slide open last year?

What environmental change occurred to cause fairy tern egg decline in Mangahwai?

When did water restrictions begin in Auckland?

What do these restrictions mean?

What chemical was found in Dunedin's water supply this year?

Find an interesting article about water on Kiwi kids news. Write a question for a friend and swap.



WATER AROUND THE WORLD

Teacher Directions: Use the selection of images as discussion prompts (pages 7 and 8). Print, cut them out and spread them around your class, or lucky dip them out of bags in small groups. Children can complete a See, Think, Wonder exercise as individuals or in groups for each picture (page 9).

After completing the exercise, discuss and reflect:

- What are some of the ways that children around the world use water?*
- Do all children have equal access to clean water? Why / why not?*







See

What do you see in the picture?



Think

*What do you think is happening?
How do you feel about the picture?*

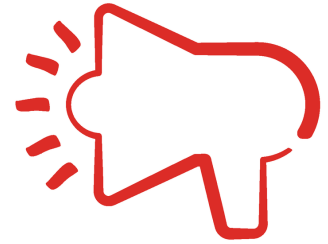


Wonder

*What do you wonder about the picture?
What questions do you have?*

#WATER2ME

Use the #Water2me hash tag to share how you value water.
Check out the other discussions [here](#).



22 MARCH WORLD WATER DAY

World Water Day, held on 22 March every year since 1993, celebrates water and raises awareness of the 2.2 billion people living without access to safe water. It is about taking action to tackle the global water crisis and achieving Sustainable Development

 World Water Day 2021

Our Organisation: Save the Children was founded in 1919 and is the world's leading independent organisation for children. We work in 120 countries to save and improve the lives of children around the world. Save the Children New Zealand was established in 1947 in Christchurch. We work to ensure the rights and wellbeing of children in Aotearoa New Zealand are understood, respected and upheld for all children up to 18 years of age. A new schools programme is the initial set up phase – creating resources, running events and supporting children, teachers and whanau to learn about children's rights and advocacy under the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child.



Save the Children

Share your work with us and stay up to date with our resources and events! education@scnz.org.nz