Water
It is precious.
Let's save water every day, everywhere.
If we save water every day, there will be enough water for all of us in our cities, towns and villages. In our homes and our workplaces. In our farms and in the factories.

Let's learn to Reduce-reuse-recycle-and-save today...for our tomorrow.

Let’s work together for a healthier tomorrow. And for all in the world.
Did you know that 97.5% of earth's water resources are salty, leaving only 2.5% fresh water.

- Indeed, fresh water resources are very scarce in our world.
- Two-thirds of the earth's fresh water is frozen in ice-caps, leaving just one-third for humans to use.
- Population growth and rapid economic development put huge pressure on our scarce fresh water resources and its increasing.
- Fresh water resources are further reduced because of pollution due to dumping of domestic sewage, industrial waste, solid waste and agricultural runoff into our rivers and lakes.
- Warmer temperatures due to climate change and excessive rainfall will exacerbate water scarcity.
- Up to 70 percent of our own body is water!
- It is up to each one of us to protect this very precious resource. It is necessary for our survival.
Water indoors: at home, at school, in the work place

Bathroom / Convenience rooms

Ensure an efficient use of water in toilets

✓ A key first check: leaking faucets and running toilets waste precious water. Fixing a leak can save more than 1000 litres a month.

✓ Old toilets use between 10 and 15 litres of water to flush. This is way too much for flushing a very small amount of urine or faeces. There are water-efficient toilets that use only about 6 litres per flush. There are dual-flush toilets with a 3-litre and a 6-litre options.

✓ Next step: Replace old toilets with water-efficient ones!

✓ For settings where there is no flush system, you only need to use half a bucket of water—or even less, in the case of a child.
Water indoors: at home, at school, in the work place

Bathroom / Convenience rooms

**Brushing your teeth.**

😊 Close the tap while you brush your teeth.

**Shavers need to become savers.**

😊 When shaving, use a jugful of water; don’t let the water run on as you shave. This will save up to 1300 litres of water every month.

😊 If a jug is not available, keep opening and closing the tap to clean the razor or the shaving brush every time you need.
Water indoors: at home, at school, in the work place

Bathroom / Convenience rooms

A good bath with just a bucketful!

- Don't let the shower run on as you bathe and soap yourself.
- Take shorter showers, e.g., a three to five-minute shower and not a 15-minute one. Every minute in the shower costs about 25 litres of precious water!
- Avoid bathing in a bathtub: it uses too much water.
- Bathe your young children together.
- When washing your hands, face and hair, don't let the water run while you lather.
- Avoid bathing under running tap water. Instead, use just one bucketful of water, which will make you clean.
Water indoors: at home, at school, in the work place

How much work gets done in the kitchen!
Let's see where we can save water.

**Washing clothes**

- When washing clothes by hand, turn off the water while the clothes are being soaped.
- Rinse clothes in a water bucket instead of under running water. Reuse the wash water as much as possible.
- Buy washing machines that are water efficient.
- Use the washing machine at full load to save water.
Water indoors: at home, at school, in the work place

How much work gets done in the kitchen!
Let's see where we can save water.

While washing utensils

- Don't let the taps run on while dishes are being soaped.
- Learn to keep taps just half-open, when dishes are being rinsed.
- Don't use too much detergent: the more soap is used, the more water is required to wash it off.
- Soak pots and pans instead of letting the water run while you scrape them clean.
Water indoors: at home, at school, in the work place

How much work gets done in the kitchen! Let's see where we can save water.

**When washing vegetables**

- Wash vegetables in a plugged sink or in a bowl filled with water instead of in running water.
- Do not repeatedly wash the food items; wash them well just before cooking.
- Teach children to turn off faucets properly after use.
Let’s go outdoors.

Gardens are a delight!
But how are we using water for gardening?

When watering lawns and flower-pots

It is a shame to use treated water to water plants. It is best to use recycled water from the kitchen or from rainwater tanks.

Water the lawns and gardens in the morning or evening; the evaporation is less and the garden gets benefits for a longer time.

Don’t flood lawns, flower pots and garden. Use the right amount of water.

Large public gardens and residential colony parks can ideally be watered with recycled water.
Let's go outdoors.

Pets are a source of joy and animals provide a livelihood for many.

**When bathing pets and animals**

- Animals, in general, do not require too often a bath - once every two months is more than sufficient. Use water sparingly.

- Give your pet a bath on the lawn; you will be cleaning it and watering the lawn at the same time.

- Cow and buffalo-owners can reduce use of fresh water for cleaning and bathing; Use recycled water for cleaning the animal sheds.
Let’s go outdoors.

Cars and scooters, buses and trucks: why is so much fresh water used to clean them?

When getting cars and scooters cleaned

- Avoid lavish use of fresh water for washing vehicles.
- Recycled water can best be used for vehicle washes. Use rainwater collected in tanks for such purposes. No hose for washing vehicles - two buckets of water will do.
- Wash the vehicle every third day only. Why daily?
Let's look up and below the ground.

Overhead and underground watertanks:
Your best storage bet.

When filling and cleaning storage tanks

* Install simple devices in tanks to automatically shut off the water flow. Don't let the fresh water overflow. Overflow is very costly!

* Regular cleaning of the tanks should be undertaken, but without wasting water.
Let's look up and below the ground.

Overhead and underground watertanks: Your best storage bet.

**Harvest rainwater rather than sending it to the drains:**
You can do it too!

- In homes, schools, offices, public gardens and public areas, build storage tanks (on the ground, elevated, or underground) to harvest the rainwater to be used for gardening, washing and domestic use.
Let's look up and below the ground.

Water bodies must be maintained and kept alive!

**Rivers, lakes and ponds, water tanks and water sources**

- Avoid throwing refuse or garbage into our water bodies; plastics choke them and chemicals pollute them.
- Garbage and refuse also pollute groundwater sources.
- Use fewer plastic items; instead use more of environmentally friendly bags (i.e. fabrics, jute) which can be reused.

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These are some tried and tested ways that can reduce-reuse-recycle-and-save water.

Our world’s resources are fast depleting. Each one of us needs to become a saver, one who thinks before consuming, using and recycling water.

Let's get started now, today!