



Saving Wild Florida: Water Conservation Activities

K- 2nd

Learning Objectives: Students will be able to discuss how water moves through the steps of the water cycle. Students will be able to identify ways they use water each day, in addition to ways they can save water.

Background: All living things, including humans, need clean water in order to survive. We use water in a variety of different ways every day, without even thinking about it. Earth is often called the “Blue Planet”, as 71% is covered by water. However, only 3% of that is freshwater – what we can drink and readily use.

Water is recycled all over Earth. The same water we drink today is the same water that the dinosaurs drank. Water travels and changes forms through the water cycle. You see the water cycle in action every time it rains.

- **Additional Information:** [The Water Cycle Video \(3:56\)](#)

Water is so important that we may not often think about all the ways we utilize this resource in a day. Showering, washing hands, brushing teeth, drinking, washing dishes, doing laundry – are just a few examples. Since there is a limited amount of freshwater, it is important to make sure that we do our part to reduce the amount of water that we use.

- **Additional Information:** [Water Saving Tips and Tricks Video \(3:11\)](#)

Living in South Florida, nearly all of our drinking water comes from the Everglades. Specifically, if you live or go to school in West Palm Beach or surrounding communities, all of your drinking water comes from Grassy Waters Preserve. This is why it’s so important to limit your impact and protect our natural areas by reducing water consumption. Remember, you are dependent on the Everglades for water, and the Everglades is dependent on you for protection.



Activity 1: Journey of a Water Droplet

Preparation:

- Journey of a Water Droplet activity:
 - Print Journey of a Water Droplet classroom signs (page 4).
 - Place sheets in various spots around the classroom.
 - Optional: Ask students to wear something blue to become a water droplet!
- Print Water Cycle coloring sheets (page 12).

Instructions:

- Show the following videos to discuss the different steps of the water cycle.
 - [The Water Cycle \(3:56\)](#)
 - [The Water Cycle Song \(2:38\)](#)
 - Teach students these hand motions to go along with the song:
 - Evaporation: raise hands up
 - Condensation: make fists to form imagery cloud
 - Precipitation: bring hands down, twinkling fingers like rain
 - Collection: gesture hands all around the ground
- To further review the steps of the water cycle, perform Journey of a Water Droplet activity:
 - Set up your classroom as discussed in preparation above.
 - Have students start in the center of the room, give the clues below and have students walk to the respective step of the water cycle.
 - The sun has started to heat you up into a gas, called vapor. Move to the stage you think you're in. (evaporation)
 - You travel high up into the sky and condense into droplets, forming clouds. Move to the stage you think you're in. (condensation)
 - You and your friends fill up clouds, causing rain. Move to the stage you think you're in. (precipitation)
 - You have fallen from the sky, and collect in areas like lakes, rivers, and the ocean. Move to the stage you think you're in. (collection)
- Wrap-Up: Pass out water cycle coloring sheet. Ask students to color each stage and write in definitions for each on the back. Reference answer key (page 14) and discuss student answers. Continue to Activity 2 to discuss ways students use water every day and ways they can conserve water.

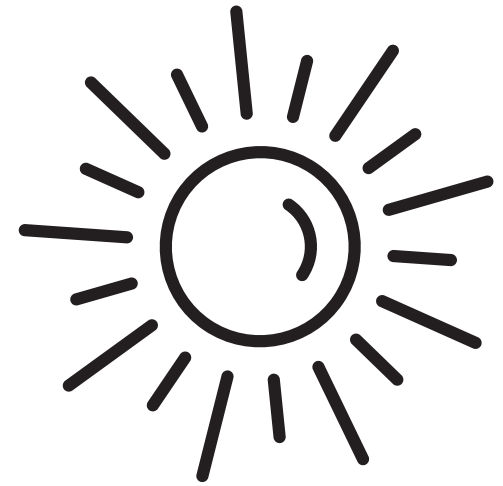
Activity 2: How Do We Use Water?

Preparation:

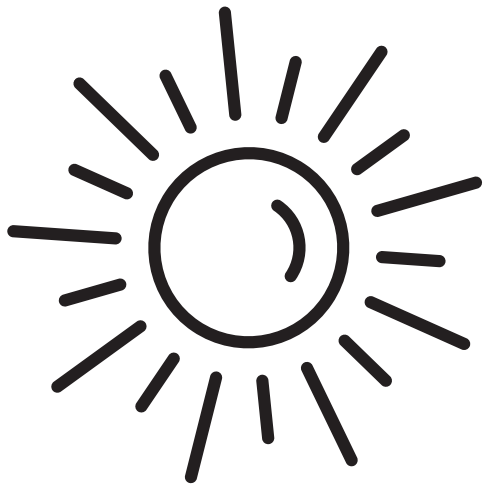
- Print Water Use Search (page 15) and Water Warrior Pledge (page 17) worksheets.

Instructions:

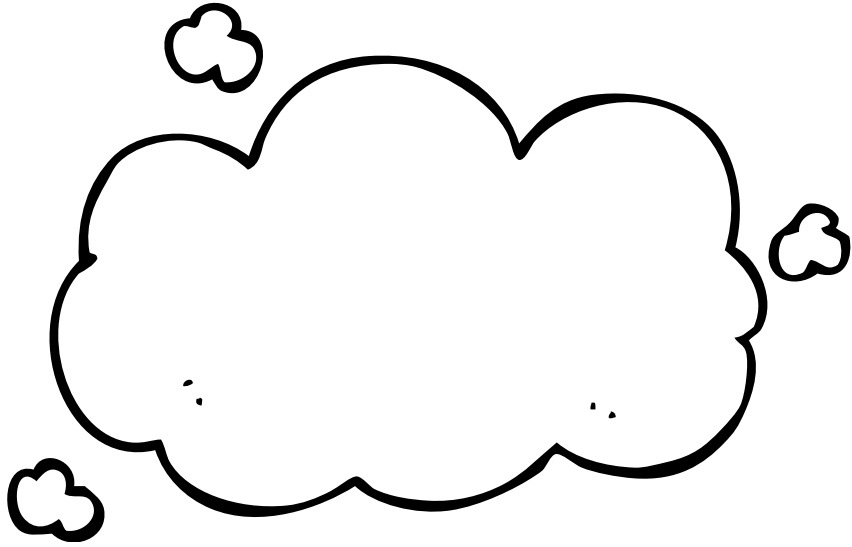
- Pass out worksheets and ask students to circle or color ways they used water today.
- Discuss ways to save water, while still completing the tasks the students listed. For example, turning off the water while you brush your teeth.
- Ask students to draw ways they can reduce their water use each day.
- To further investigate ways to save water, reference these links:
 - [100+ Water Saving Tips](#)
 - [20 Ways Kids Can Help Conserve Water](#)
 - [30 Things You Can Do to Save Water](#)
 - This website has great resources, such as the opportunity for students to request their own free shower timer!
*Giveaways only available to City of West Palm Beach residents.
- Wrap-Up: Pass out Water Warrior Pledge worksheet. Ask students to write their name and identify one way they can save water this week. Once complete, display pledges in the classroom and congratulate students on being Water Warriors!



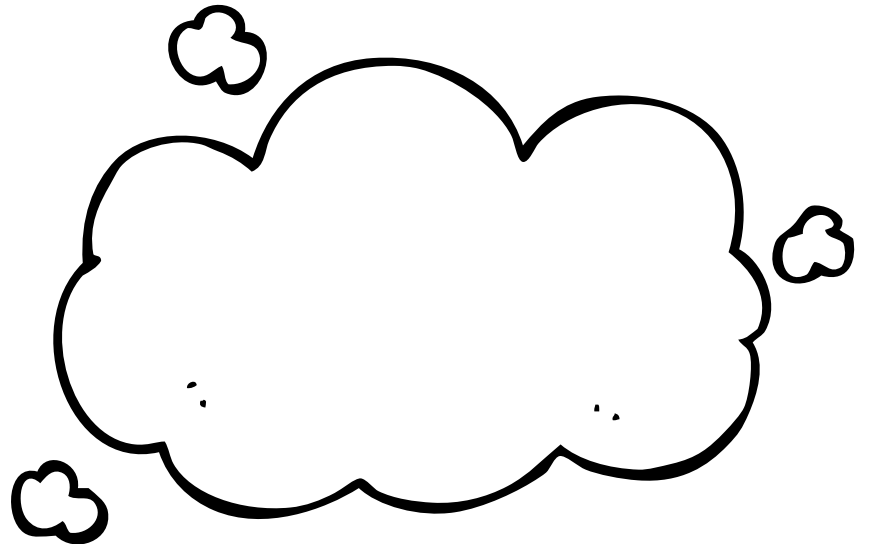
Evaporation



**Heat turns
water into
a gas called
vapor**



Condensation



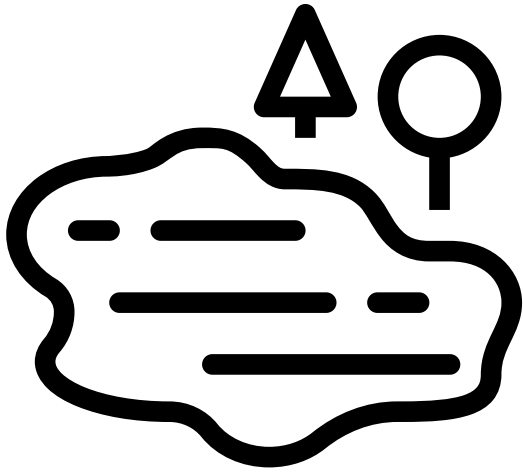
**Water goes high
up into the sky
and condenses into
droplets, forming
clouds**



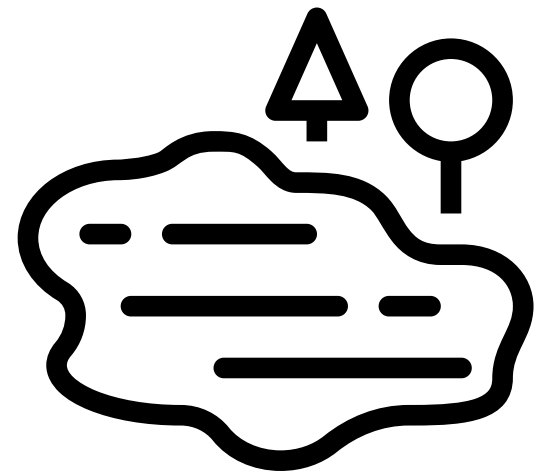
Precipitation



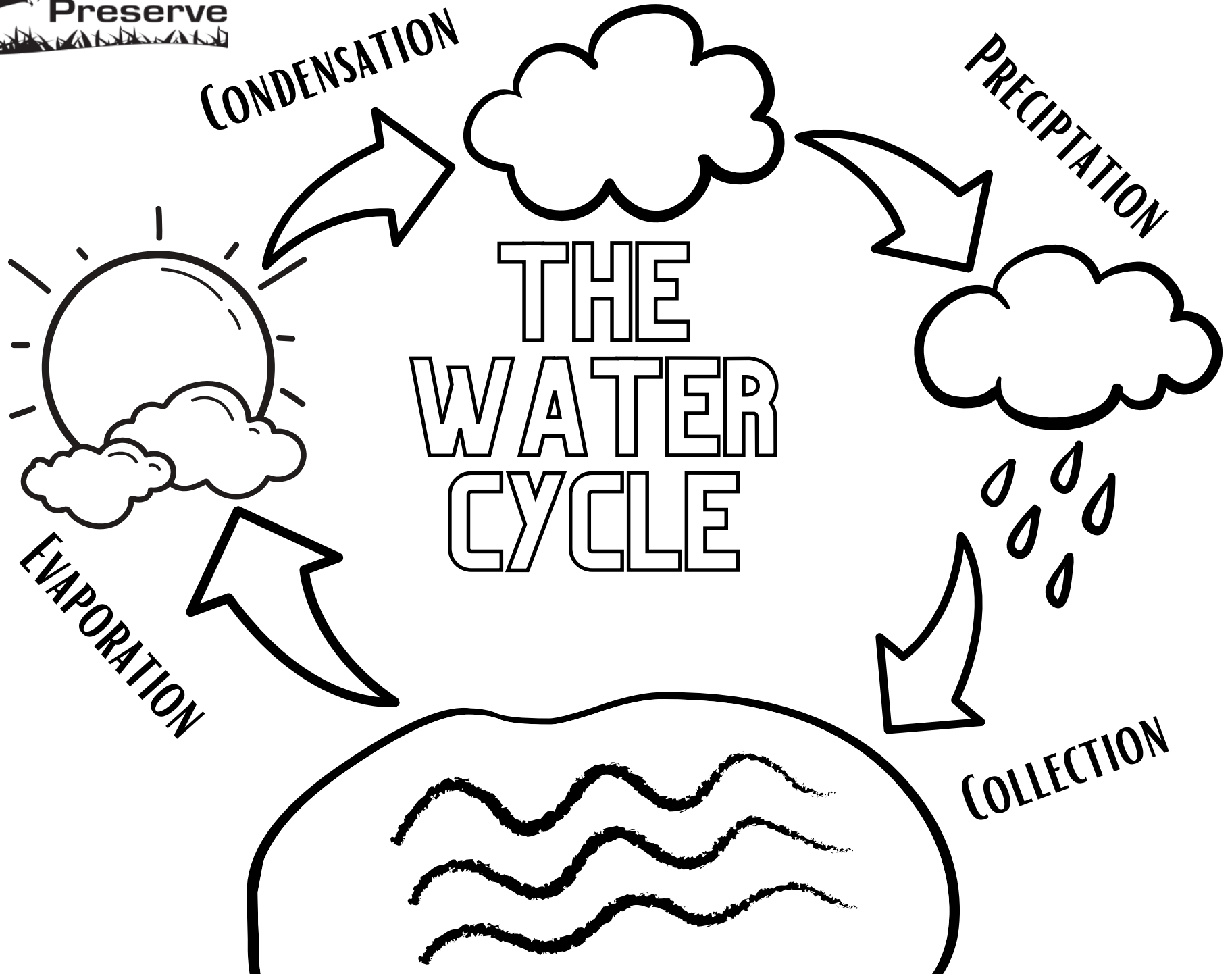
**Clouds fill
up with
water
droplets,
causing rain**



Collection



**Rain
collects in
areas like
lakes,
rivers, and
the ocean**



Evaporation:

Condensation:

Precipitation:

Collection:

WATER CYCLE ANSWER KEY:

Water Cycle: shows how water moves around the Earth

Evaporation: heat causes water to turn into a gas (vapor) and float up into the sky

Condensation: water goes high up into the sky and condenses into droplets, forming clouds

Precipitation: water droplets fall from clouds, as rain or snow

Collection: rain pools in lakes, rivers, streams, or the ocean

... and repeat!

Name: _____



WATER USE SEARCH

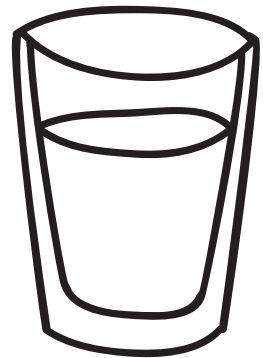
Circle or color the ways you used water today.



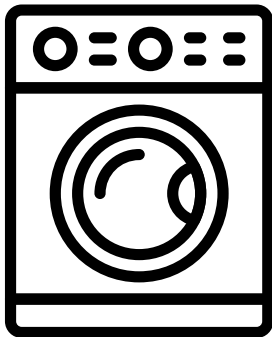
Washed hands



Took a shower or bath



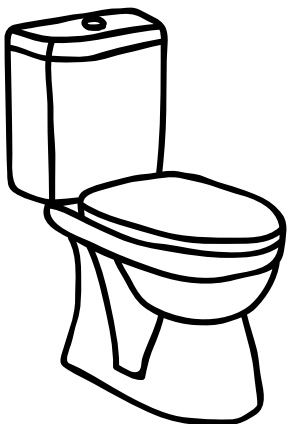
Had a drink



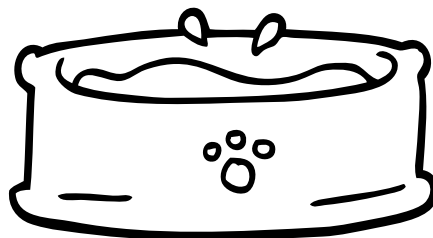
Laundry



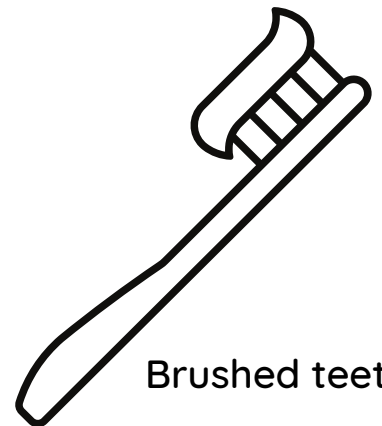
Washed dishes



Went potty



Took care of pets



Brushed teeth

Name: _____

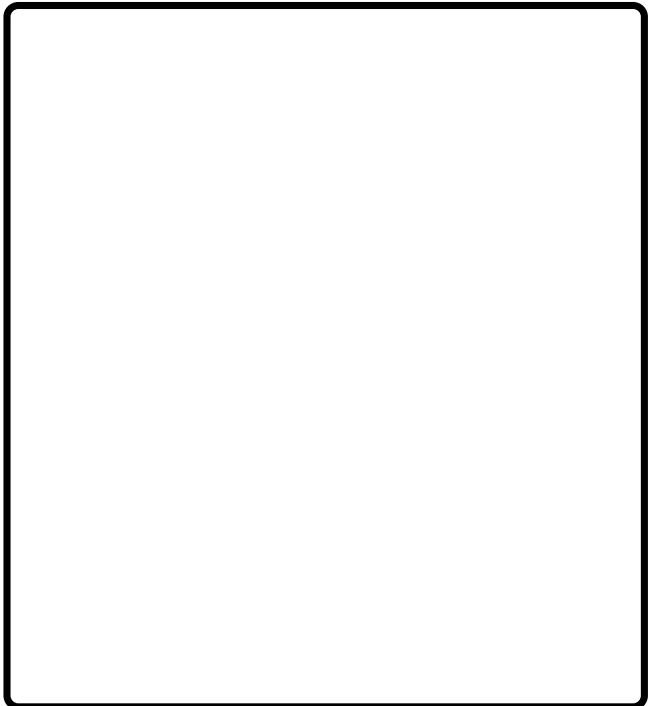
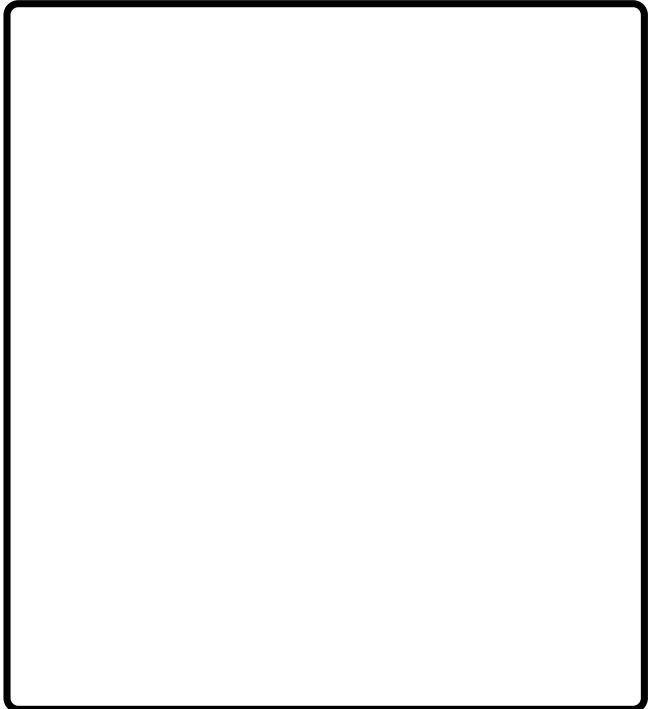


HOW CAN YOU SAVE WATER?

Instructions: Draw three (3) ways you can start saving water every day, either at home or at school!

An illustration within a rectangular frame. On the left, a faucet is shown with water spraying out, next to a large black 'X' mark. Below the spraying faucet is a drawing of a faucet with its handle turned to the left, indicating it is closed. To the right of the closed faucet is a large black checkmark. Below these images, the text reads: "Turn off the sink when you brush your teeth!"

Turn off the sink when you brush your teeth!





I AM A WATER WARRIOR



(Name)

I promise to conserve water by ... _____



I AM A WATER WARRIOR



(Name)

I promise to conserve water by ... _____
