



# Water

## Shorten Your Shower

### Action Overview

Water is one of the most important resources on the planet. All plants and animals need water to survive. Being aware of how much water we use every day is really important because the earth only has a certain amount of available water that we can use, making water a limited resource. By conserving water you will not only be saving money and saving energy but utilizing the Earth's water supply in a smart and environmentally friendly way.

It is estimated that the average person uses just over 25,000 gallons of water each year. We use water every day for a variety of different things. We use it to drink, water the plants, wash our hands, wash dishes, wash clothes, cook, clean, shower, and much more. At home, we can start to do our part in conserving water by doing one simple task. Shortening our showers. A typical shower uses about 5 gallons of water per MINUTE. This means that in a 10-minute shower, 50 gallons of water is being used. To put in perspective, that's the same amount of water as 400 water bottles.

In this activity, you will be challenging yourself to see how you can make your showers more efficient and shorter. You will be using a timer to calculate how long your shower takes and then see if you can conserve water by shaving off a small amount of time each time.

Once you have mastered a short shower, see if you can get your family members to do the same. The more people who shorten their showers the more water is saved.

### Instructions

1. Locate a timer, phone with a stopwatch, or something to use record the time it takes you to take a shower.
2. Print out shower log data sheet.
3. Take a normal shower and time how long it takes. Do not do anything different.
4. Calculate how much water you used during the shower assuming your shower head releases 5 gallons of water per minute.
5. Record your information in your shower log.
6. Decide how much water you want to save and how long you will have to shorten your shower to do it.
7. Set a goal to reduce your shower by 30 seconds each time you shower.



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8. Keep recording your progress.
9. Note: Make sure you are still able to get squeaky clean!
10. Report your data to the city.

## Evaluate

Click [here](#) to fill out the evaluation form and share your activity results and thought with the City.