



What do I need?

Page 2 of the worksheet

A4 card (any colour)

Coloured pens or pencils

Old magazines

Scissors

Glue stick



saving water poster

What do I do?

Read the page 2 information about how saving water at home and in the garden can lead to a more sustainable lifestyle.

Choose which of the 4 water-saving gardening practices you want to base your poster on. You can go back and create posters for the other methods later!

Think of a bold and striking title that will catch people's attention and make sure they read your poster, such as '*No time to nap, turn off the tap!*' or '*A brown lawn makes a gardener green!*'

Look through your magazines to find good pictures you could use in your poster.

Decide which picture you want to use for your main image - it should be something that instantly gets your message across, e.g. you could put a big red cross over an image of a lawn being watered to deter people from using sprinklers on their lawns.

Decorate the rest of your poster as you like, making sure it gets your message across.

Once you've finished, display your poster somewhere that relates to your message and where it will be easily spotted. For example, a poster reminding people to turn off their taps could be stuck above a tap!

TIP: See our collage book cover tutorial for ideas on how to cut out letters to make an eye-catching title for your poster.



4 ways to save water in the garden...

1. SAY NO TO THE HOSE!

Hoses use and waste a lot of water because they spray it where it's not needed. A more sustainable way to water your plants is to use a watering can. This way, you can water more precisely and only use as much water as you need. It's also best to water plants in the evening or early morning when the sun is not too strong to avoid wasting water through evaporation.



2. STORE RAINWATER!

Many plants actually prefer rainwater because tap water is often treated with chlorine and other chemicals that can prevent plants from taking up essential nutrients from the soil. There are lots of ways you can collect rainwater, including placing water butts underneath the drainpipes on your house. A water butt is a large container with a tap that stores collected rainwater until you want to use it. They're especially useful during periods of drought when there is no rainfall. A thrifter way to collect rainwater is to insert porous ceramic pots into the soil near your plants. These will collect rainwater as it falls and slowly release it to the plants. They're also great if you have limited time for watering your garden!



3. BROWN LAWNS ARE GOOD!

We know there is nothing nicer than sitting on a lush green lawn in summer, but it takes a lot of water to keep it that way. Water sprinklers waste a huge amount of water during summer because people leave them running for much longer than they need to. Did you know that you don't need to keep your lawn green to keep it healthy? Grasses are very hardy plants and can survive on a tiny amount of water. They may turn a little brown when it's dry but they soon spring back to life when the rain comes. Be proud of your brown lawn as it's a sign of a very environmentally-friendly gardener!



4. DROUGHT FRIENDLY PLANTS!

Some plants are much tougher than others and don't like too much water, such as Mediterranean plants and succulents. If you live in an area with a dry climate, planting these types of plants will save you time and water! Some great drought-friendly plants are lavender, sedum and sea holly which are all low-maintenance and adored by pollinating insects like bees. For ideas on drought-friendly planting schemes look at Beth Chatto's gravel garden in Essex. Or take inspiration from countries like Spain and Morocco but check how cold-tolerant a plant is before you plant it!



SAVE WATER