



The Story of Water- Wastewater (video 6)

Teacher notes:

- After watching part 6 of 'The Story of Water-Wastewater' children discuss how some pollution we can see, and some we cannot. Get children to give suggestions on what kinds of pollution we can and cannot see. Tell the children you are going to show them examples of this.

Pollution activities for Junior to 2nd Class

Materials needed:

- 3 plastic/glass bowls
- Food colouring
- White Vinegar
- sugar

Method

- Place 3 bowls in the middle of a table so everyone can see them. Use clear bowls if possible.
- Explain to children that we are going to pretend these bowls of water are the rivers/seas around Ireland. Pour food colouring into the first bowl. Ask children if they can see the change in the water. Ask children to give examples of pollution we can see.
- Next pour vinegar into the next bowl. Ask children if they can see the change in the water, and if not, how can we tell the water has changed. Explain to children that sometimes we cannot see

pollution in water but we can smell it. Ask children to give examples of pollution we can smell.

- Finally pour sugar into the last bowl and stir until dissolved. Ask children if they can see/smell the change in the water, and if not, how can we tell the water has changed. Explain to children that sometimes we cannot see or smell pollution in water but that the water can still be polluted. Ask children to give examples of pollution we might not be able to identify with our senses. Have a class discussion on how we can tell if water is safe or not.

Pollution absorption activity

In the video, it is explained that polluted water can be dangerous for people and for marine life. Discuss with children how we can absorb pollutants and how they can make living things sick.

Materials needed:

- celery
- 2 types of food colouring
- 3 glass/clear cups

Method:

- Cut 3 stalks of celery and place them each in a separate cup of water.
- Add one food colouring to the first cup.
- Add the second food colouring to the second cup.
- Leave the third cup with only water.
- After some time the children will absorb the celery changing colour according to the water it is sitting in. Cut open the celery and examine how the food colouring affected inside the stalk. Make correlations between the celery and living creatures living in polluted water.