

# Water Collage

## Purpose

To think creatively about the many ways water is used.

## Process Skills

Classify, Collect data, Interpret data, Communicate.

## Background

We use a lot of **water** every day, but we often don't even notice it. In this project, you will make a collage showing many of the ways water is used every day.

**Time** – 30–45 minutes

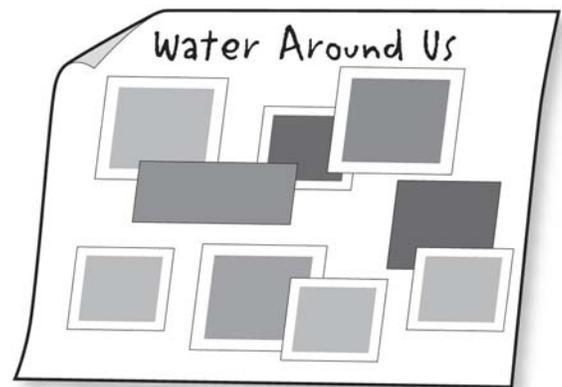
**Grouping** – Small groups

### Materials

- large sheet of poster paper
- collection of old magazines
- glue sticks
- scissors
- markers
- 5 in. x 7 in. index cards or other labeling materials

## Procedure

1. Go through magazines and cut out pictures of water being used, or things that might use or involve water. Some suggestions include: irrigation, drinking, cooking, cleaning, doing dishes or laundry, water sports, playing with water, industry, and transportation.
2. Design a water-use collage by placing the photos on the poster paper. *Do not glue them on yet.* Working together, plan how you want to organize the pictures into groups on your collage. For example, you may decide that pictures that show weather should be placed near each other.
3. Follow your group's plan by gluing the photos on the poster paper. Try to fill the whole paper. Photos may overlap. You might want to leave small spaces for labels and a title (see step 4).
4. Give your collage a title and add labels to name each group of images. Cut pieces of index cards for the labels and the title. Then glue them in the open spaces, right on top of the pictures, or make them stick out from the edges of the poster.
5. Complete the Water Collage Summary Sheet.
6. Discuss with your teacher how you will present and display your collage.





## TEACHING TIPS

*Water is one of Earth's most important resources and covers three-quarters of the Earth's surface. An appreciation for and understanding of Earth's water is important for students as consumers of this critical resource. These process activities explore the water cycle and the changes water undergoes as it moves through this cycle, as well as the effects these changes have on Earth. They also help students explore how what we do affects everyone's water.*

### SET-UP AND PROCEDURES

- In choosing poster paper (or other collage backing), consider available display space.

### MATERIALS

- Encourage students to only cut as many photos as they intend to use on their collages, so magazines can be useful in the future.
- Using glue sticks should yield better results than glue or other adhesives.



### SAFETY

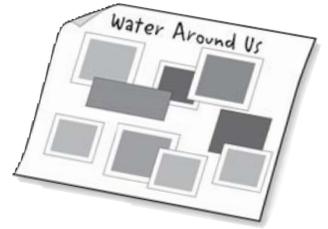
Use of scissors and glue should be monitored.

### EXTENSIONS AND VARIATIONS

- Variation/Art: Have students add photos or paint directly on the poster.
- Variation: Offer pre-cut blue labels shaped like water drops.

**ANSWER KEY****Analyze Data**

Water Collage title:



1. List all of the groups in which you put pictures:

*Examples of groups in which students may place pictures include drinking, cooking, cleaning, playing, weather, bodies of water, transportation and irrigation.*

2. Was it difficult to decide where to group a certain picture? Give at least one example and explain why.

*Certain pictures may not fit into any groups students have chosen, or may be appropriate for more than one group. At least one example should be provided, with an accompanying explanation.*

3. Which were your favorite pictures and why?

*Answers will vary and should be supported with a reason.*

4. Describe one picture on your collage that shows water being wasted. (If you don't have one, describe what kind of picture would have shown this.)

*Examples include a leaky faucet, a flooded field, running water in a sink, hosing down a sidewalk, and watering plants during the heat of the day.*

5. Describe one picture on your collage that shows water being conserved. (If you don't have one, describe what kind of picture would have shown this.)

*Examples include a faucet or tap in the off position, sweeping with a broom, a low-flush toilet or showerhead, low water usage landscaping, and washing a car with a bucket and sponge.*

6. Write a summary of the roles water plays in our world.

*People and animals rely upon water for many of their needs. Plants need water to grow and to make their food. Water is crucial to the day-to-day survival of living things. Without access to water, we could not survive or do many of the things we have to and want to do.*