

Limited Water Supply Activity



Try this activity to see how little water there really is for everyone on our planet to use.

Materials:

- Ice cube tray
- Mixing bowl
- Measuring cup
- Measuring spoons
- Salt
- Empty 2-liter plastic pop bottle



Activity:

1. Fill the empty 2-liter pop bottle with water. This stands for all of the water on earth.
2. Pour 68 ounces plus 1 tablespoon of this water into the mixing bowl and add some salt. This stands for the earth's saltwater—in oceans and seas. It has too much salt for us to use for drinking and cleaning.
3. The water you have left in your 2-liter pop bottle stands for how much fresh water there is on earth—it's good for drinking, cooking, and cleaning—but not even all of this is available for us to use.
4. Pour 2 tsp. of this fresh water into an ice cube tray and put it in the freezer. This stands for the fresh water that we can't use because it is in polar icecaps and glaciers.
5. You now have about 1 tsp. of fresh water left. This is the water we find underground and in rivers, lakes, and streams and is available for us to use.

It's not much, so let's take care of our water!