



# Opportunity Education

"Educating Children Around the World"  
[www.OpportunityEducation.org](http://www.OpportunityEducation.org)

Sister School Newsletter  
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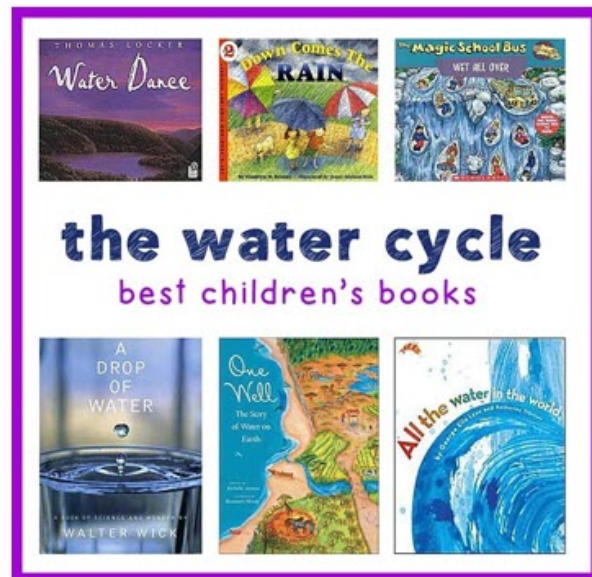
## Start Writing Right Now

Sometimes our students don't understand the differences in their daily lives compared to their pen pals. The water crisis in Africa and pollution issues in India are real problems your students need to be aware of as citizens in a global world.

The following are ideas that may help you develop an understanding of the importance of water in their lives and the lives of their pen pals.

- Ask students to brainstorm how they use water every day. This list will start off with simple ideas such as drinking water and washing hands, but then you may guide them to understanding how essential water is to everything in life – health, food, energy, transportation, nature, leisure and virtually all the products used on a daily basis.
- Discuss with your students where they get water from where they live. Where do their pen pals get their water? Selections from the videos and the suggested books may be good resources for you.
- After reviewing the water cycle, discuss how much water in the world is actually usable. This activity is a visual demonstration for your students.
  1. Fill a one gallon jug with water. This represents all the water on earth.
  2. Take ¼ cup of this water and pour it into a clear cup. This represents Earth's fresh water. The rest of the water in the jug represents the saltwater we can't drink.
  3. From the ¼ cup of water in the clear cup, take 4 tablespoons of water and pour this into another clear cup. This represents the fresh water that is not frozen in ice caps or glaciers.
  4. From the cup with the 4 tablespoons of water remove one drop with an eye dropper or straw and put it in a third clear cup. This represents the water that is clean, fresh, not polluted and otherwise available to use.
- Ask older students to do research on water usage and conservation, sharing what they have learned in class. Teachers can share water conservation ideas with their younger students with students illustrating what they can do.

Write letters to your pen pals sharing what you have learned about using and conserving water. Ask them how they obtain and use water where they live and if they are affected by water shortage, lack of clean water or water pollution.



Check out these links for great information and lesson ideas about water.

<https://www.h2oforliveschools.org/curriculum>

<https://thewaterproject.org/>

<http://www.shareitscience.com/2015/10/water-conservation-science-demonstration.html>

<https://www.pinterest.com/opportunityed/cross-curricular-writing/>



For more information please contact:  
**BECKY WALTERS**  
[www.opportunityeducation.org](http://www.opportunityeducation.org)  
[schools@opportunityeducation.org](mailto:schools@opportunityeducation.org)  
 402-614-5381

