

## **Guess How Much Water**

Use this simple guessing game to get kids interested in water issues. They will be amazed at how much water it takes to make some of the products they use. This works with students in grade 3 or 4 and above because they have a better grasp of how big the numbers are.

Directions:

- 1) Run off a copy of this file.
- 2) Hold up one of the pictures and ask kids to guess how much water it takes produce (or grow) this item. Make sure you stress that is okay not to know the answer to the question, that this is just a guessing game. Since kids are shy or they tend to agree with their most outspoken peer, you might want to ask them to write it down on a piece of paper. Ask them to hold up their guess at the same time.
- 3) Tell the group what the high and low number is and then the number that is closest to the real number. Show them the actual answer and then ask them to think about why it takes so much water. Plants need a lot of water to grow. Animals eat plants that needed a lot of water to grow and they need water to cool themselves and to survive. Anything made in a factory used water to make electricity (unless it was wind or photovoltaic electricity which is rare) and to cool the machines that heat up when they are running.

You may want to follow this activity with the crossword puzzle at the end of this file that teaches us how to conserve water indoors and outdoors.



One

apple

1 apple =  
17.5 gallons of water

or 70 liters



forty  
sheets  
of  
paper

40 sheets of paper =  
100 gallons of water

(380 liters of water)



One  
pound of  
chicken

1 lb of chicken =  
500 gallons of water

(2275 litres of water)



One  
hamburger



1 hamburger =

633 gallons of water

2400 liters of water



One  
glass of  
milk

1 glass of milk =  
54 gallons of water

(200 liters of water)

We don't make these in NIM, but . . .



One  
pair of  
jeans

**1 pair of jeans =  
1,800 gallons of water**

**(6,840 liters of water)**

We don't make these in NIM, but . . .



One  
car

One ton of steel used to  
make one car =

32,000 gallons of water

(121,600 liters of water)



One  
12-ounce  
can of  
soda



1 12-ounce can of soda =

16.5 gallons of Water

(62.7 liters of water)

# EZ Ways to Save Water Indoors!



**1** Make sure your washer is full before you run it. If you run your washer half-full, it will take twice as much water to wash the same amount of clothes! Also, most frontloading washers use half as much water as toploaders!



**2** Turn the water off when you brush your teeth, wash your hands, or shave! It's only a couple of gallons for you, but if we all do it, we'll save millions of gallons a day!



**3** Take shorter showers! Five minute showers are usually enough. Make sure you have a low-flow showerhead.



**4** Install a high efficiency toilet and never use your toilet as a garbage can! That wastes a flush.

# EZ Ways to Save Water Outdoors!



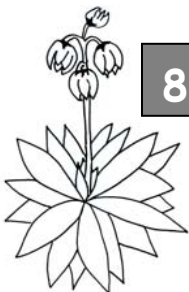
**5** Move your sprinkler so it doesn't water the street or sidewalk. Your hose uses 20 gallons of water every minute! Be careful where it goes.

**6** Water at night or in the early morning when it is cool. You will minimize water evaporation. And use our 1-2-3-2-1- guidelines!

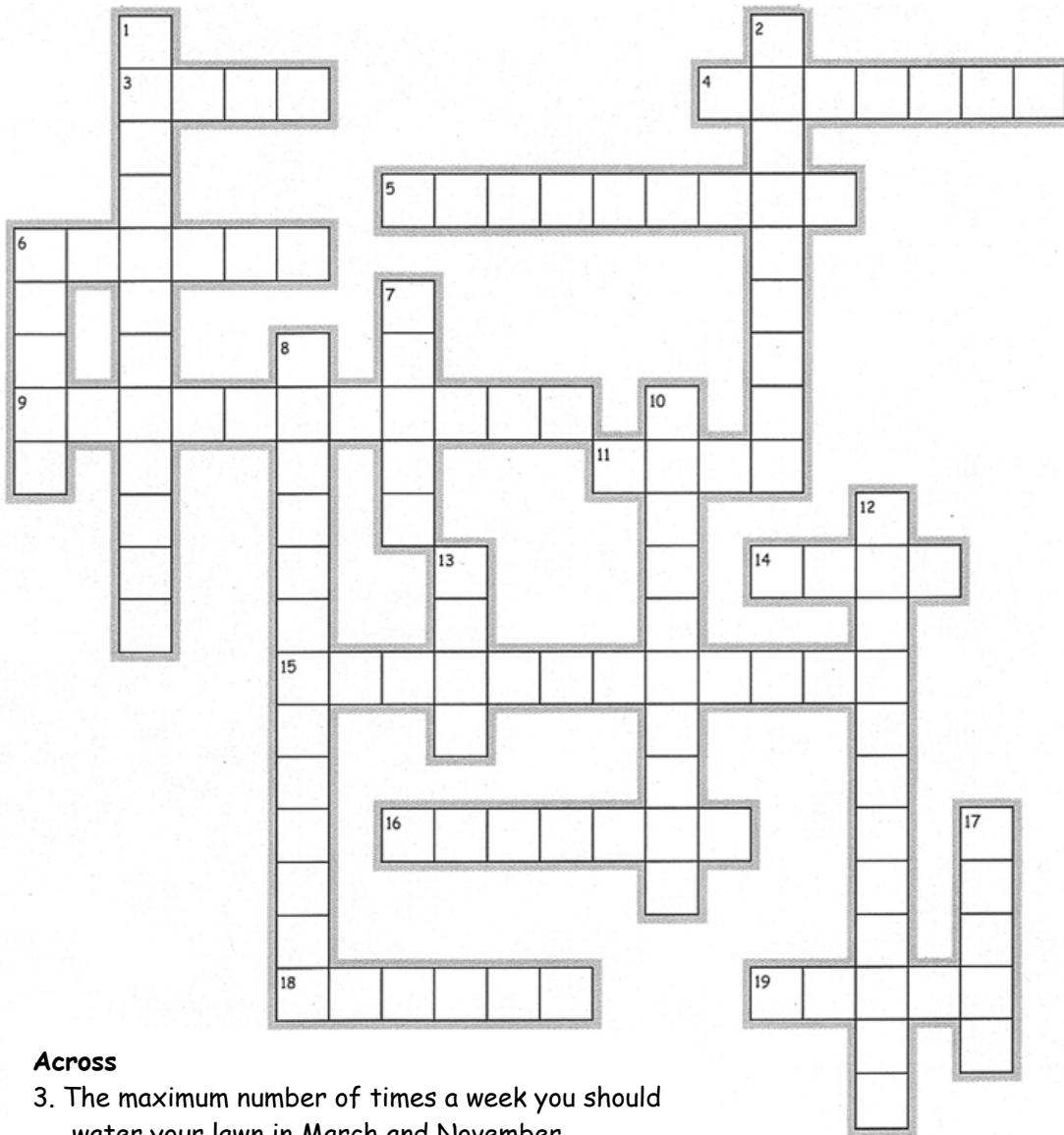
**7** Use a nozzle on your hose so you don't have to run back and forth to turn it off or on. Only turn the hose on when you are using the water - don't let water run down the street.



**8** Plant drought resistant trees and plants. Xeriscape plants use less water and are very hardy. Use drip irrigation to reduce evaporation. An automatic timer helps you remember to turn the water off.



# Test Your Water Conservation Knowledge!



## Word Bank

aquifer  
 automatic  
 condensation  
 dishwasher  
 drip  
 evaporation  
 five  
 frontloading  
 infiltration  
 nozzle  
 once  
 precipitation  
 rebates  
 river  
 three  
 twenty  
 twice  
 water  
 xeriscape  
 zero

### Across

3. The maximum number of times a week you should water your lawn in March and November.
4. Money we give our customers who buy high efficiency toilets or washers or who xeriscape.
5. Timers that turn off your irrigation system.
6. The number of gallons a hose delivers in 1 minute.
9. When liquid water turns into a gas (water vapor).  
The hotter it is outside, the faster this happens.
11. The number of minutes you should shower.
14. The number of times you should water your lawn in December, January, and February.
15. When water sinks or percolates into the ground.
16. This is where all of the water in Albuquerque's faucets, toilets, washers, hoses, and sprinklers used to come from.
18. Use this on your outside hose to easily turn water off and on - don't let water run down the street.
19. The maximum number of times you should water your lawn in April/May and September/October.

### Down

1. When water vapor turns into liquid water.
2. Landscape that uses drought resistant plants in order to conserve water.
6. The maximum number of times a week you should water your lawn in June, July, and August.
7. Because we live in a desert, we must conserve this precious resource.
8. When water falls from the sky as rain, snow, sleet, or hail.
10. You should never run this appliance until it is full.
12. Most of these clothes washers use half as much water a typical toploading machine.
13. A type of irrigation that delivers water to the ground near the plant rather than to the air as most sprinklers do.
17. Where some of Albuquerque's water comes from now. This will allow our aquifer to replenish.