

A MILLION HANDS

Water sanitation and hygiene resource pack

In partnership with



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A Million Hands Big Moment

For the first time in history, nine out of ten people have access to safe water. However, 663 million people around the world still lack basic access to clean water, while 2.4 billion – that’s one in three people – have nowhere adequate to go to the toilet. As a result, 900 children die from diarrhoea every single day.

It doesn’t have to be this way. In our lifetime, we can end this crisis, and Scouts can help to make this happen.

Walk for water

A Walk for water is a sponsored walk to increase awareness of water and sanitation issues. These walks raise money to support Scouts in Madagascar who are working with their communities, local organisations and the government to help improve access to clean water and sanitation across their country, where over half of the population has no choice but to drink water so dirty it could kill them.

How you do the walk is up to you, but here’s some inspiration:

- You can create a walk that challenges your young people, giving them the opportunity to reflect both on the global crisis and how Scouts and WaterAid are working on water and sanitation issues.
- You could dress up in water related costumes and walk through busier areas to raise awareness of what you are doing.
- Young people could carry water or other objects on their water walk to get a sense of the burden of having to carry water over long distances. In some developing countries, many women and children have to walk long distances carrying water in containers as heavy as 20kg – that’s the same weight as the average airline luggage allowance.
- The walk could be the same distance or take the same amount of time that a young person who doesn’t have easy access to clean water would have to do. Women and girls in these areas walk an average of half an hour to collect water, sometimes up to four times a day.
- You could plan your walk so you pass by a local water feature important to the history of water and sanitation provision in your town, or take a journey along a local canal or riverside.

Calendar

September 2018	October 2018	November 2018	December 2018	January 2019	February 2019
Understand the issue	Global Handwashing Day	Plan action World Toilet Day			
March 2019	April 2019	May 2019	June 2019	July 2019	August 2019
Take action	Take action	Learn and do more	Tell the world		

Badges and top awards



Scout Network members working towards this as an event or project may earn the A Million Hands Clean Water and Sanitation Virtual Badge on the [UK Scout Network website](#).



Some of the activities in this pack could be used towards the International, Communities and Values list as part of the Chief Scout's Platinum and Diamond Awards and the Queen's Scout Award. For example, supporting younger sections to understand about water, sanitation and the work of Scouts in Madagascar.



Taking part in these activities might inspire you to complete your [Scouts of the World Award](#). This could lead to you exploring the issue of water and sanitation in another country by setting up your own SOWA project.

Understand the issue

Tippy tap challenge

Overview: An activity for young people to discover how people who don't have easy access to water can wash their hands.

Outcome: Young people will understand the practical difficulties associated with the water crisis (washing hands) and empathise through the experience of building a tippy tap in a small team.

Time: 45 minutes

Equipment: Diagrams of a tippy tap and/or [video of Bear Grylls building a tippy tap](#), planks of wood, posts or branches, rope, duck tape, and empty 1l plastic bottles (enough for one per team). Water.

Linked badges:



Activity instructions:

- 1 Ask young people what they think WASH might stand for (Water Sanitation and Hygiene). Explain that, in some countries, children their age have to bring home water for their families, walking long distances to collect dirty water up to four times every day. If you have access to a tablet or laptop you could show [Grace's film](#).
- 2 Ask young people to list what they use water for every day.
- 3 Discuss whether they listed water used to flush a toilet, clean their clothes and wash their food – this all contributes to good hygiene and without easy access to water can lead to the spread of diseases and illness.
- 4 One of the things we take for granted is being able to wash our hands simply by turning on a tap. Explain that we will have a competition, in teams, to build the best tippy tap which allows people to wash their hands in an effective way, without spreading germs or disease. Where might we find tippy taps useful (Scout camp)?
- 5 Show the group a picture of a tippy tap and/or the [video of Bear Grylls using a tippy tap](#). Challenge them to build one in 30 minutes using the materials in front of them.
- 6 You could judge the tippy taps considering:
 - Which group finished first?
 - Which one is most effective (can wash hands in the easiest way)?
 - Which one looks the best/is best constructed?
 - Have any teams used any creative solutions/adapted the design?

- 7 Debrief the activity by explaining that you are going to plan a Walk for water to raise awareness of the need for everyone everywhere to have access to clean water and sanitation. Although tippy taps are a great way to make-do when you don't have running water, it's much safer if everyone has access to clean, running water.

Plan action

Creative community mapping

Overview: Plan your Walk for water by getting creative and mapping out your local area, locating local services, lakes, rivers, canals, and useful places to walk past (town centre, town hall, etc.). You can then plan the route you will walk for the biggest impact.

Outcome: Young people will have helped to plan their walk, identifying people who can help and places they can pass by. Young people will know the reason for the route they are taking.

Time: 45 minutes

Equipment: Printed maps, colouring pens or pencils, and photographs of local water features/the local area (optional).

Linked badges:



Activity instructions:

- 1 Explain that you are going to be planning a Walk for water to raise awareness about WASH issues and raise money to make sure that everyone everywhere has access to clean water and sanitation.
- 2 Ask young people to mark on the maps with an X the places with the highest amount of people in them (town centre, leisure centre, schools, etc.).
- 3 Ask young people to mark on the map with a O where there are water features (rivers, canals, lakes, public toilets, sewage treatment plant etc.).
- 4 Why might it be good to plan their walk so it passes by some of these places (increase the amount of people you can talk to, to raise awareness, to see some of the places we get our water from, and where our water is processed, etc.)?
- 5 Plan your route together making sure you pass by some of these places. Explain that being prepared is not only about carrying the right equipment. You have now planned the most effective route possible for your Walk for water.

Planning your Walk for water

Explain that the last activity shows that they live within a network of connections to people and places. Now you are going to plan your walk to make sure it's as visible and valuable as possible by considering these questions:

- 1 Will you carry a large amount of water with you to empathise with those that have to do this every day?

- 2 Could you dress up as toilets, taps, watery characters (mermaids!?) to draw attention to your group?
- 3 Could you carry your tippy tap with you and show people in the community how and why you would use it?
- 4 Could you make some banners or leaflets to hand out to people and raise awareness of WASH issues?
- 5 How will you raise money (sponsorship, collecting donations along the way)?
- 6 How will you spread the word? Contact your District or County press team to support you and email WaterAid's press team at pressoffice@wateraid.org for press release advice on spreading the word.

Take action

Walk for water

Overview: This activity gets young people out on their feet, experiencing first-hand some of the issues people face accessing water.

Outcome: Young people will have developed empathy for people that have to walk long distances to get water and raised awareness of water issues in their local community.

Time: Dependent on length of hike

Equipment: Water carriers (for young people to experience carrying water long distances), a route map, a compass, a camera, water to drink and snacks, costumes, banners, and information to give to people along the way.

Linked badges:



Activity instructions:

You are going to **Walk for water** to raise awareness and money around the water crisis.

- 1 Before you head out and as you walk remind young people of some of the issues people face to access water every day – how far do they have to walk? How much do they have to carry? Where do they get their water from? This will be helpful to tell people you meet along the way to learn a little more about the water crisis.
- 2 If the young people are going to carry water, consider how this might be divided between people if it's very heavy. This might help you to think about how much water some people have to carry every day.
- 3 Whilst on the walk, consider how you might find water if you didn't have bottled water with you. Have you seen any streams/ponds/puddles? Would this water be safe to drink? How might you collect the water? Where did you go to the toilet if you needed to along the way? Was this easy? How did you keep your hands clean?
- 4 Look out for the water features along the way (interesting manhole covers, animal drinking troughs, fire hydrants, etc.).
- 5 Remember to speak to people along the way to raise awareness of what you are doing and why you are doing it (ensure you follow the [Yellow Card](#) at all times).
- 6 At the end of the walk consider:
 - how difficult the weight of the water made it for you to walk
 - and how doing the walk made you feel about what some people have to do every day to access water.

Take photos of the walk (with permission). Share them on social media and send them directly to your local media or via your Scout District or County press team. Also share them as soon as possible with WaterAid at young.people@wateraid.org, so we can share an overview of all the activities that happen nationally.

Learn and do more

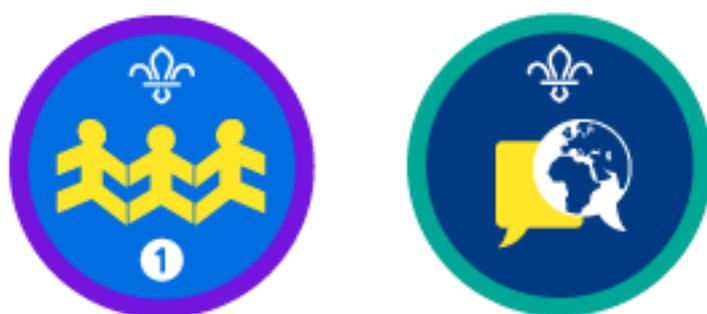
Overview: This activity brings together the learning from the walk and the learning about the issue, and explores methods to deepen this knowledge with the help of accessible expertise.

Outcome: Young people will have learned where they can get additional information and will have increased their knowledge, so that they can continue to share messages around the issue of water, sanitation and hygiene.

Time: 1 hour

Equipment: Internet access to find information about local water companies and to access the WaterAid Speaker Network.

Linked badges:



Activity instructions:

- 1 Book a [WaterAid speaker](#) to visit your section. Let us know that you took part in the Walk for water and our speaker will present a certificate of participation before you hand over your cheque. Alternatively, contact us to make other arrangements for payment at young_people@wateraid.org.
- 2 Ask young people to tell the WaterAid speaker about their Walk for water, considering these questions:
 - Where did they walk for their Walk for water?
 - Did they carry water with them? Was it hard?
 - Who did they speak to along the way? How did they raise awareness about water issues?
 - How does it make them feel knowing not everyone has access to clean water?
- 3 Young people could show the WaterAid speaker the maps they created for the walk, their costumes, banners or photos of the walk.
- 4 The WaterAid speaker could then talk to the young people a bit more about WASH (Water, Sanitation and Hygiene) issues and specifically about how their fundraising money is going to help people in other countries have access to clean water.
- 5 If you haven't done so already, remember to send the story of your walk to your Scout District or County press team and also to pressoffice@wateraid.org. You can build this into your programme through the Tell the world activity.

Tell the world

Overview: This activity will help young people to celebrate the brilliant work they did planning their Walk for water and raising money to help more people access clean water.

Outcome: Young people will feel confident in sharing their experience and new knowledge with a wider group of people in order to help raise awareness of this issue.

Time: 30 minutes

Equipment: Community maps from previous activity, coloured pens, paper, and craft materials.

Linked badges:



Activity instructions:

- 1 Remind young people that it's really important to spread the word to lots of people about how vital it is that everybody has access to clean water.
- 2 Look at your community maps and ask young people to think about where is the busiest place in your community (this could be the shops, school, etc.).
- 3 Who are the most important people in your community (this could be your MP, a local famous person, teachers, etc.)?
- 4 In small groups or pairs, choose a location or a person to focus on.
- 5 Explain that you are going to create something to tell these people about what you did, including at least three facts about water, sanitation and hygiene.
- 6 Ask young people to think of interesting ways to engage people about these issues. It is important that the messages they want to share are shared in a way that suits the people or place. Remember to follow the [Yellow Card](#) at all times, especially when contacting individuals by email or social media. The [Explorer Stay Safe](#) resource is also very useful.
- 7 They could make a poster to put up in a busy place, or send photos of their Walk for water and facts to an MP. You could even consider making something to display in a central location to get people's attention, such as:
 - an eye-catching model of a toilet to tell people about the sanitation crisis
 - posters to put up in local public toilets where people are accessing clean water
 - leaflets to display in local shops for when people buy a bottle of waterYou could also email your local MP with photos of your walk and why you did it, and update your Group, District or County Facebook page with information about your walk.