

## Save Water in the Home

In the UK, each person uses on average 150 litres of water daily, with the average household using over 100,000 litres of water every year. Imagine 317 pints of milk and that's 150 litres of water.

### In the kitchen:

- Wash vegetables and fruit in a bowl rather than under a running tap, then use the leftover water for watering house plants.
- When you boil water in saucepans and kettles, use the minimum amount of water - that way, you'll save energy as well as water.
- When running the hot water tap waiting for the hot water to come, catch the cold water in a saucepan and use it for watering house plants or for use in the garden.
- Try keeping a bottle or jug of water in the fridge instead of running taps until the water runs cold.
- When washing dishes by hand, don't rinse them under a running tap. If you have two sinks, fill the second one with rinsing water. If you have only one sink, stack washed dishes in a dish rack and rinse them with a pan of hot water.
- Use washing-up liquid sparingly as this will reduce the amount of rinsing required when washing dishes by hand.
- Use a plugged sink or a pan of water. This saves running the tap continuously.
- When boiling vegetables, use enough water to cover them and keep the lid on the saucepan. Your vegetables will boil quicker and it will save you water, power, and preserve precious vitamins in the food.
- Wait until you have a full load before switching on the dishwasher or washing machine. Did you know 'half-load' programmes use more than half the water and energy of a full load?

### In the bathroom

- Don't leave the tap running while you brush your teeth, shave or wash your hands. This can waste up to six litres of water per minute.
- Showers use about nine litres of water per minute. A five minute shower uses about a third of the water of a bath. But remember that power showers can use more water than a bath in less than five minutes. One minute off your shower time, for a family of four would save 12,000 litres of water a year.
- Old toilet cisterns can use as much as nine litres of clean water every flush. Reduce this by placing a 'save-a-flush' or 'hippo' in the cistern.
- Leaking toilet cisterns waste litres of water each day. Check for leaks by putting a few drops of food dye in the cistern. If you have a leak, coloured water will appear in the bowl before the toilet has been flushed.
- Dripping taps can waste up to 15 litres of water a day. Replace worn tap washers for a quick and cheap way of saving water.