

SLIDE 1: Today people all around the world are talking about and thinking about something important - that all of us use every day. Can you solve the riddle and work out what it is we will be thinking about today.

(PPT 1 - the sentences are animated - reveal one at a time, perhaps checking if anyone has got it after each one? Stop at 'What Am I?') (You could be drinking from a reusable bottle of water whilst waiting for responses)

SLIDE 2: Today is World Water Day. Every year, on the 22nd March, people around the world are asked to think about water. Why might this be?

When you had a drink this morning or brushed your teeth did you look at the water and think about it? Many of us don't. We just turn on our taps and the water comes out - taken for granted. We don't often stop and think about it.

SLIDE 3: Think now about the water we don't see daily. At home water makes your fridge work, keeps your radiators warm if you use them, and is in our food. We use more water in the world for growing and producing food, than for anything else. Water is vital and important to everyone's lives, hence a global world water day. But why are we being asked to talk about water and to think about water today?

(Emphasise that it's **WORLD** water day - click for animation - answers will vary but hopefully you will get to: because sometimes we waste water or because not everyone in the world has taps/water, or because water is important to everyone around the world.)

SLIDE 4: Many people in the world cannot get water as easily as we can. They might not have taps in their houses, they might not have a well to collect water, they might have a river close by but the water might be dirty. Well image is from Nepal in case asked, other one from USA.

SLIDE 5: Let's zoom out a minute and take a look at our planet. A lot of the water we have on earth is water that we cannot use for drinking or cooking, and farmers cannot use it for growing vegetables or feeding animals. Why is it that?

Where is most of the water on earth? (Click to reveal answer: in the oceans – saline water that we cannot use, or locked up in ice in glaciers and at the poles). Only a small amount of water on earth (1%) is fresh water.

Who needs this water? (Answer – every single person in the world and many of the plants and animals that we share it with).

SLIDE 6: And global water use is rising. Why might this be? Students might pick up on population growth and that is certainly a factor, but it is also to do with changing lifestyles (eating more meat, higher levels of consumption).

SLIDE 7: This slide shows some familiar foods. We have established that we need water to produce food. Which of these do you think uses the most water? Allow students to guess and give a figure in litres.

SLIDE 8: Reveal the answers. Were they correct? Are they surprised?

Introduce the idea of hidden (sometimes also called virtual, embedded or invisible) water that is used in many of the things we consume and use. Hidden water is the water used to produce a product including the water used to process any wastes from the production process.

SLIDE 9: Explain that hidden water is in much more than just food. In fact water is used in almost anything we use or consume. Repeat the guess process for these 4 products.

SLIDE 10: Process their responses

SLIDE 11: Human Right to water granted in 2010.

SLIDE 12: Today water scarcity is connected to many other issues around the world.

CLICK In Zimbabwe in southern Africa, women and girls are at risk of harassment collecting water.

CLICK In Somaliland, a self-governing region of Somalia in East Africa, some water pipes lay unused in the ground awaiting the local government and the water board to organise their use.

CLICK In Sri Lanka on a tea estate founded by a company under the British Empire, workers' housing built then is still undeveloped with water supplies uncertain.

CLICK In Bangladesh communities forced to move due to climate change find their new homes insecure and again unserved by regular water supplies.

CLICK In all these communities local people work creatively to find solutions and to find water. (a fifth image in the centre showing this hope / innovation?)

SLIDE 13: The previous slide and examples show that water issues are about much more than simply having enough to drink. They are connected to many other factors and a lack of water can mean that you fail to live a peaceful life with impacts on your wellbeing and prospects.

The theme for World Water day this year is Water for Peace. Look at the logo. As you make your way to class reflect on what it might be like to be one of the 2 billion people (a quarter of your fellow humans) who does not enjoy access to water. How might this feel? How might it threaten peace for you? Try to empathise with someone in this situation and perhaps think twice next time you turn on the tap about how lucky you are!

Suggested music track to play out the assembly/intro

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fzPjkG3akrc&list=PLug1maEKaeSkV8RteyN0UkK72fvk3Yizm&index=8>

[play the song but obscure video]