



That's My Water! Bush schools

Teacher Guide: Social Action Project

PowerWater



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That's My Water! is a collaboration between Power and Water Corporation and remote schools across the Northern Territory. This curriculum unit is designed to support teachers to explore the concept of water sustainability in their community and empowers students to take local action. The program promotes both ways learning and celebrates the traditional knowledge that exists within remote communities.

Note: This resource focuses solely on the development of a Social Action Project to influence sustainable water use in remote communities. There are also extended curriculum resources available for deeper exploration of the topic.

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That's My Water! will be implemented in collaboration with the Northern Territory Department of Education and Catholic Education Northern Territory. For more information on guest presentations and other resources to support program implementation, please contact Living Water Smart.

This unit has been developed by Atria Group in consultation with Power and Water Corporation. For more information please contact pnaughtin@atriagroup.com.au



Billabong, Northern Territory Outback

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Foreword

For us Territorians, water is the essential ingredient to every aspect of life. Water has shaped the unique landscape and the culture of the NT for over 60,000 years and continues to be critical today.

Power and Water is proud to provide safe and reliable drinking water to the 72 remote communities across the NT. It is a challenging job and each community has its own unique water story.

However, our current rate of water consumption in many parts of the Northern Territory is not sustainable. On average, Territorians use twice the water per capita than the rest of Australia. Power and Water needs the help of your school community to ensure we have enough water into the future.

This activity allows schools in remote communities to create a social action project to influence smart water use in their local community.

The project is designed to encourage students to take on the role of water ambassadors. At best, these culminating projects will create a new generation of informed and empowered sustainability leaders that will change the path their community takes toward a sustainable future.

If your school is interested, there are further curriculum resources available for deeper exploration of water and sustainability in remote communities.

We encourage teachers to work in the students' first language where applicable. We recommend collaborating with Aboriginal Assistant Teachers and connecting with the Cultural Strand of the Indigenous Language and Culture Curriculum.

Thank you for your ongoing support.

Activity: Social Action Project

Note: It is recommended that it takes place over multiple lessons to allow students to develop their projects.

In short

This activity challenges students to create a social action project to support sustainable water use in their community.

Students will:

- Identify an area or behaviour they believe will make a difference to water use in their community
- Learn about social change and ways to influence and educate their community
- Create a social action project to support sustainable water use in their community

Guiding Question: How can I influence others to improve water use in my community?

Resources

- Appendix one: How can we save water?
- Social Action Project: Challenge Card

Suggested learning experiences

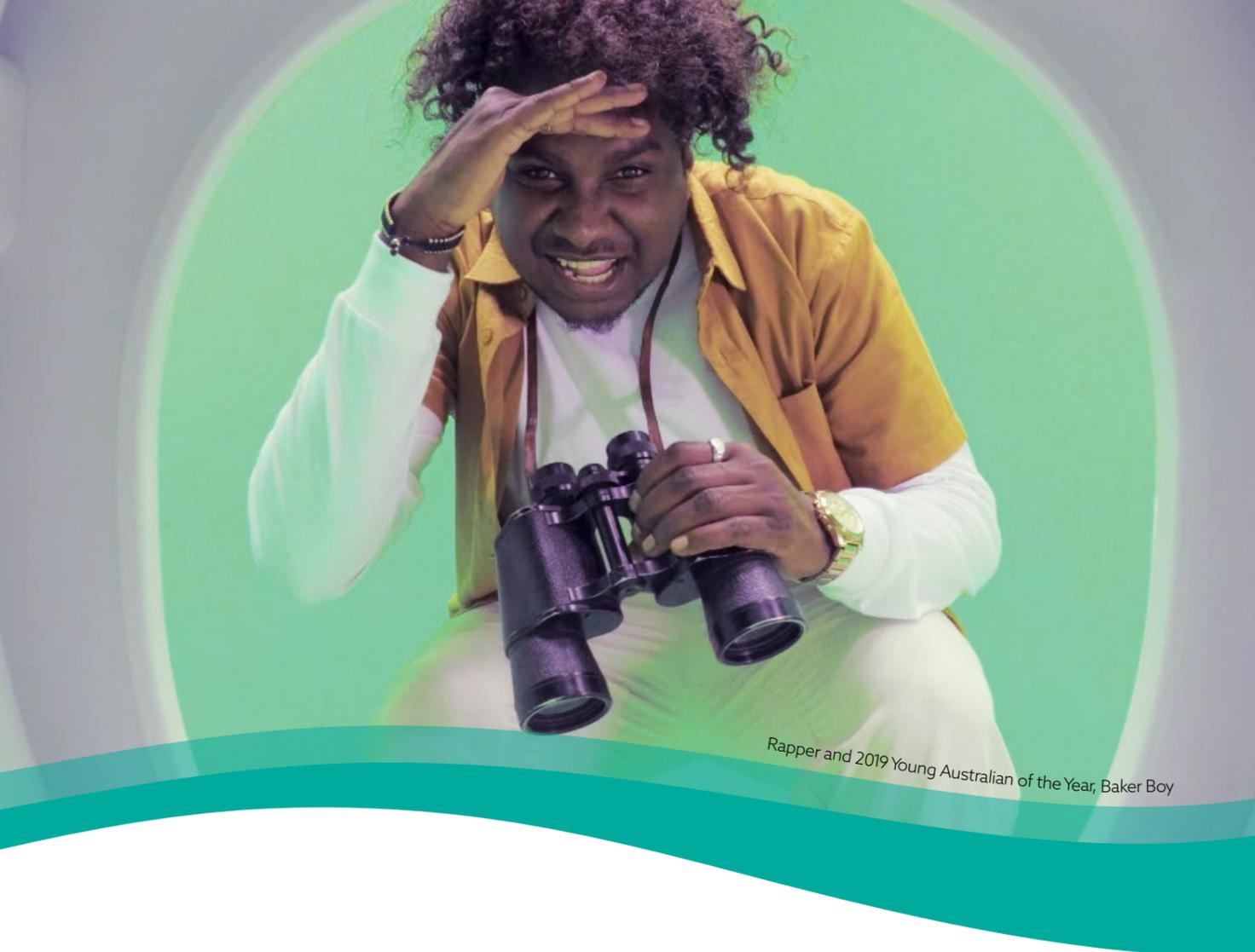
1. Introduce the Social Action Project to whole class by highlighting that we all have a responsibility to ensuring the community has a sustainable water supply into the future.
 - Focus on the opportunity for students to take on a leadership role and help improve their community. Highlight the following points:
 - There are 72 remote communities in the Northern Territory. Power and Water is very proud to provide drinking water to each and every one.
 - It is very challenging job, and they need your help to make sure there is enough water for your community into the future.
 - Power and Water need you to create a project to help your community be water smart.
2. Divide the class into three groups. Assign each group one of the following areas to focus on; inside and outside the house, at school and in the community.
Each group is to brainstorm a list of ideas to the following two questions relating to their focus area:
 - **Where have you seen water being wasted in this area?**
 - **What are some ideas for saving water in this area?**Invite each group or a representative of each group to share their responses.

3. Distribute the worksheet 'How can we save water?'. Invite students to record the best ideas they heard from each focus area. Discuss the best ideas as a whole class.
4. As a whole class, watch the final video of the series titled '**Water is our Future**'.
www.youtube.com/watch?v=dq4VTTXFXqA&t=1s
Note: This is the third and final video in the series featuring rapper Baker Boy. If time permits, the first two videos will also assist the students in creating their Social Action Project.
After the video, pose the question to students:
 - **What ideas did the video suggest to save water in the community?****Ideas include:** turning off taps, looking for leaks, reporting leaks, taking shorter showers.
As a class, discuss if these are the same or different than their ideas.
5. Introduce the term 'Social Action Project' and write it on the board. Define it as 'When people get together to take action on an issue that is important to the community'. As a class, brainstorm any examples of social action projects they can think of. These may include initiatives focused on health, education or safety.
Share the following video titled 'No Germs on Me'. Discuss the issue and the key message this video is trying to address. www.youtube.com/watch?v=H4skziPaJEk
6. Distribute the 'Social Action Project: Challenge Cards'. Read through the challenge card as a whole class and discuss the project options in detail.
7. As a class, discuss the resources that exist within the community that could support the social action projects. Examples of relevant resources include an art studio, a local artist, a local site or water tank that could be painted, a music studio or musician, a local radio station, a local sporting club, a practical person such as a builder or engineer.
8. Now that students have an overview of their task, support them to focus in on a specific idea through the following steps:
 1. Identify a target behaviour to focus on, e.g. reporting leaks or turning off taps.
 2. Choose a type of project to influence the community, e.g. a song or a video.
 3. Identify a target audience, e.g. parents or school children.
 4. Decide if the project will be individual, in pairs or in a small group.
 5. Let the teacher know what additional support will be needed, e.g. help with filming, recording or creating the project.
9. Get going and create projects that inspire the community!



Appendix One: How can we save water?

Location	Where have you seen water being wasted?	What are some ideas for saving water?
Inside and outside the house		
At school		
In the community		



Rapper and 2019 Young Australian of the Year, Baker Boy

That's My Water! Bush Schools Challenge Card

Your challenge

Power and Water needs you. You are each leaders within your community and it is your responsibility to help your community have a sustainable water supply into the future.

Your challenge is to create a project that helps influence smart water use in your community. The project should focus on a key area or behaviour and share your message in a creative and memorable way.

Project ideas

When thinking about your social action project, consider your strengths and what other resources or people are in community that may help you bring it together.

Below are a couple of ideas, but think big and create something special!

Create a song

Are you an aspiring rapper, singer or hip hop artist? Just like our video host, Baker Boy, show the community what you can do and put your message to music.

Put it to video

Can you create a video that tells your local water story or teaches the community how to be smart with water?

Bust a dance move

Can you say it better through dance than with words? Think about how your dance moves could share a key message with your community.

Teach the younger kids

Are you a natural teacher and good with young kids? Consider if you could work with a younger years class to teach them about the importance of water use in your community.

Make something practical

Do you have an idea for a new innovation or product? Think about what you could create that would help reduce water use in your community. It might be a shower timer, a leak detector or a tap timer.

Steps

To help you get started, work through the following steps.

1. Identify a target behaviour to focus on, e.g. reporting leaks or turning off taps.
2. Choose a type of project to influence the community.
3. Identify a target audience, e.g. parents or school children.
4. Decide if the project will be individual, in pairs or in a small group.
5. Let the teacher know what additional support will be needed, e.g. help with filming, recording or creating the project.

Good luck and remember, Power and Water would love to see all of your ideas.

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That's My Water! is commissioned by Power and Water Corporation and the education resources are developed by **Atria Group Pty Ltd**

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