

# How to Save Water



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## Enviro-Stories

Enviro-Stories is an innovative literacy education program that inspires learning about natural resource and catchment management issues. Developed by Peekdesigns, this program provides students with an opportunity to publish their own stories that have been written for other kids to support learning about their local area.

[www.envirostories.com.au](http://www.envirostories.com.au)

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# How to Save Water

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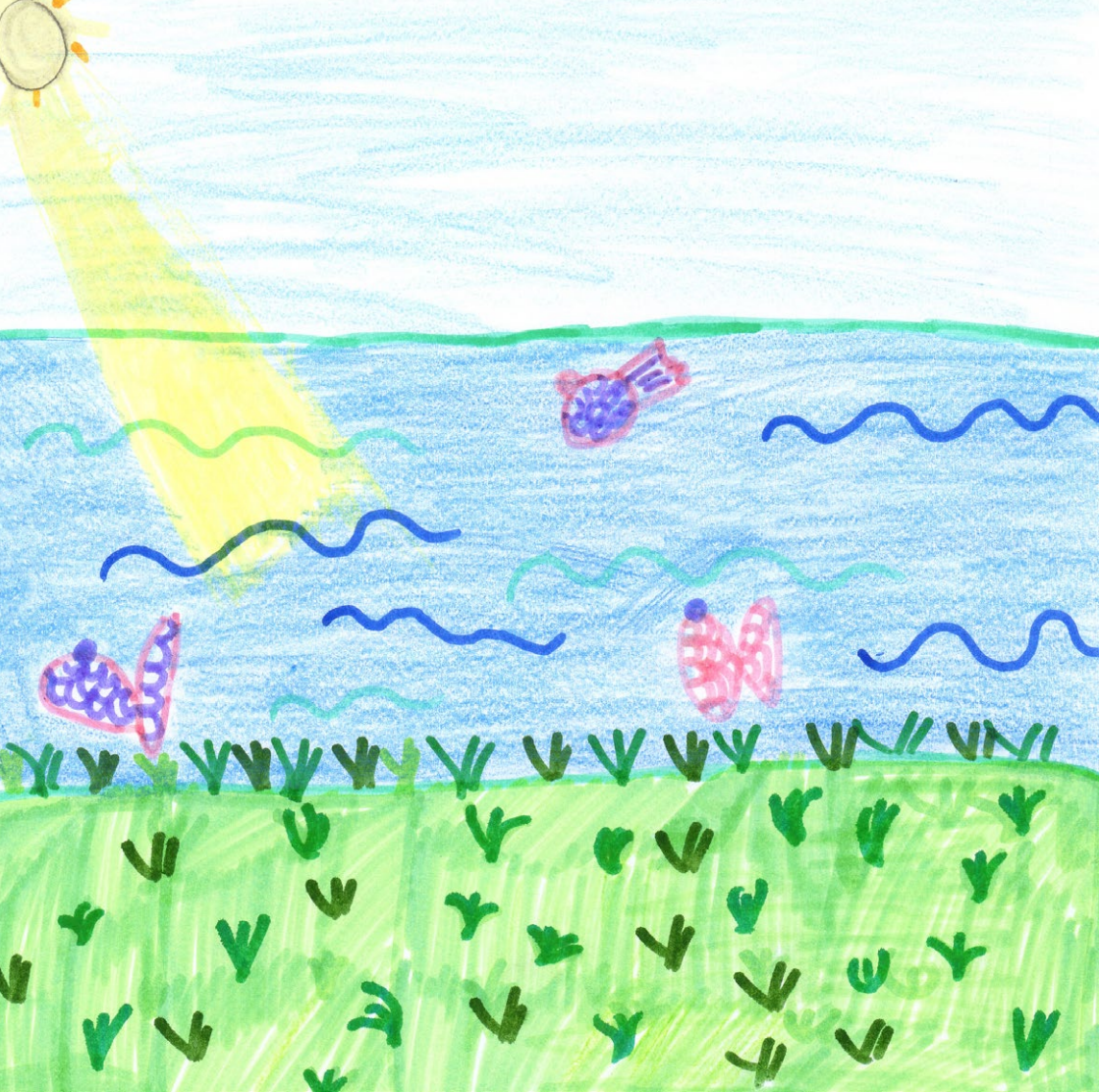
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Enviro-Stories is a PeekKdesigns initiative, [www.peekdesigns.com.au](http://www.peekdesigns.com.au).

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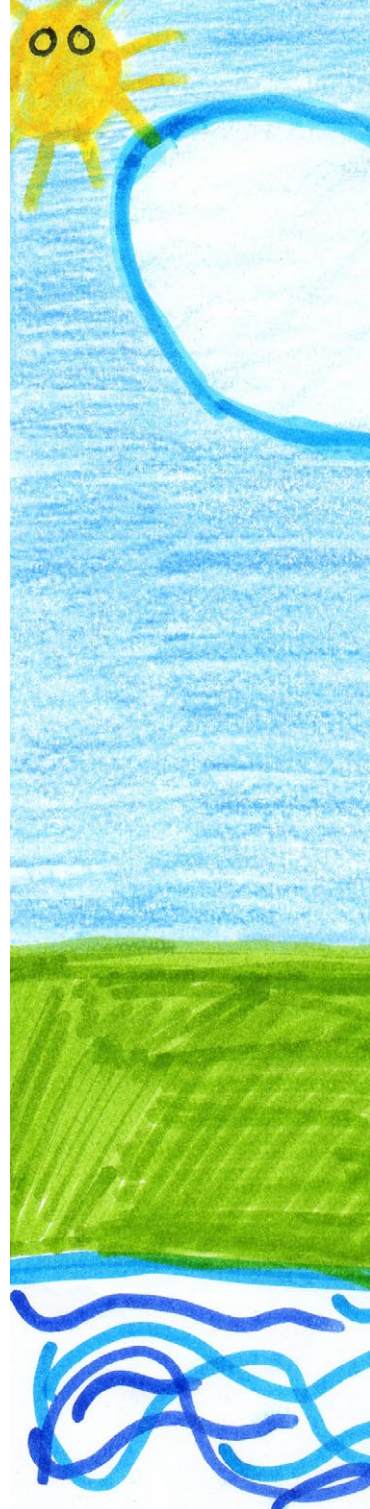
In the river the little fishes swim up to the water's edge. They try and find shelter under the shade of the long green grass to protect them from the warmth of the sun beaming down on the water.





With all the hot weather around the river had started to get low, to a point where there was hardly any water left for the fish in the river.

As the hot days followed, the dirt on the riverbed started to suck up all the water leaving big cracks and hardly any water in the river.



A young girl named Hayley walked along the river, saddened by how low it had become.

She noticed that there was a pump sucking water out of the river. Hayley didn't think anything of it as it had not rained for many months and the farmers needed the water for their crops.

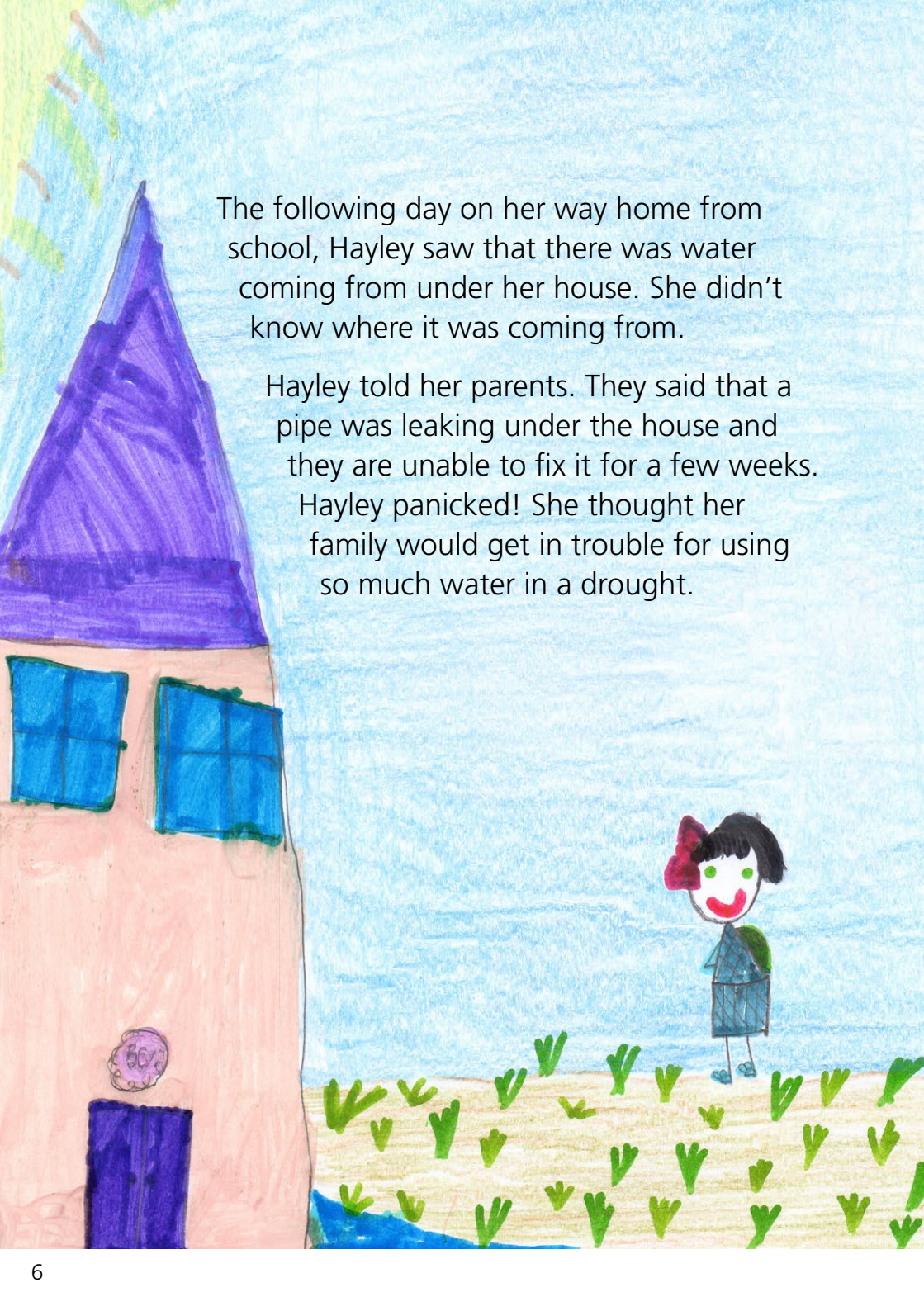
As she ventured home, Hayley started to look around and noticed some troubling things. The sprinklers were on the football oval in the middle of the day, old Mr. Newton was washing his curb down, her neighbours were washing their cars in the driveway and she counted four leaking or dripping taps. Worst of all, when Hayley got home, she saw that the tap in the bathroom was left running. She scampered to turn it off.

Hayley thought about all the things she had just seen and how terrible the community had become at wasting water.







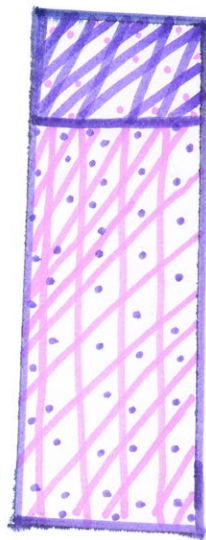
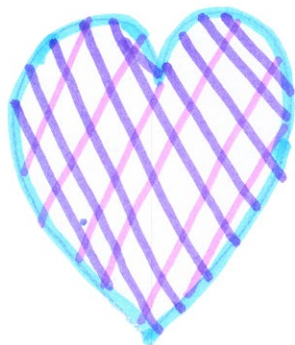


The following day on her way home from school, Hayley saw that there was water coming from under her house. She didn't know where it was coming from.

Hayley told her parents. They said that a pipe was leaking under the house and they are unable to fix it for a few weeks. Hayley panicked! She thought her family would get in trouble for using so much water in a drought.







In the morning as Hayley was eating breakfast she saw an ad on TV saying that severe water restrictions were now in place. People were advised to be careful in their water use and not to waste it on unnecessary things.

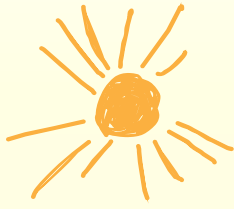
Hayley decided she would like to help. She thought if she could learn how to be 'water smart', then she could teach others how to save water.



Hayley used the computer to start researching different ways to save water. She found lots of interesting things that everyone can do around the house to help save water.

Her first action was to make a 'Saving Water Plan' poster showing how her family could save water in their home.





# Water Saving Plan



- 💧 Have short showers.
- 💧 Do not brush your teeth with the tap running.
- 💧 Fix leaking or dripping taps.
- 💧 Make sure the dishwasher and washing machine are full before doing a load
- 💧 Re-use grey water on the lawn.
- 💧 Only water the garden and lawn at night.
- 💧 Keep a jug of cold water in the fridge.
- 💧 Install a water tank.
- 💧 Wash the car on the lawn rather than the road - this waters the grass as well.

Hayley's family agreed to follow the Saving Water Plan but they were unsure whether this would work and help with water restrictions.

As the days got hotter and the sun began to burn Hayley and her family tried to think of ways they would be able to keep cool. They came up with many ideas such as blowing up a pool, running under a hose and having a nice cold shower.

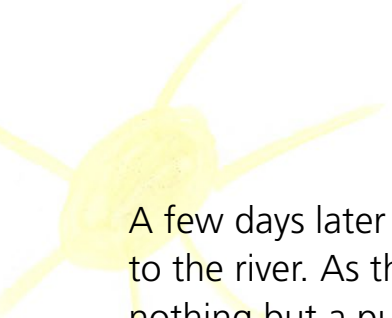
Hayley told them, "These are all great ideas, but we have water restrictions and are unable to use a lot of water." Everyone was disappointed and unhappy that they couldn't have fun in the water and cool down.





Hayley went back to the drawing board to think of how they could try to keep cool and also save water. She decided that if they were careful and used the water sparingly, her family could have one day a week outside playing in the water to cool down. This way the grass and plants were able to get watered and her family could have a bit of relief from the heat.





A few days later Hayley and her family went down to the river. As they got closer they saw there was nothing but a puddle left in the middle of the river.

Hayley felt very foolish. Her family had tried to save water, but the community was still using too much.







Inspired by their daughter's passion Hayley's parents printed lots of copies of her 'Saving Water Plan' and helped her put them up all over town. Her community loved all the suggestions as they too were worried that they may run out of water.

Hayley was extremely proud when everyone worked together to try and save water.



One night without any warning the rain started to pour down on the roof. Hayley woke with a fright. She couldn't believe what she was seeing ... RAIN! It hadn't rained in such a long time she forgot what it looked and smelt like.



The rain poured for many days and the rivers, lakes and dams all started to fill again. Hayley hoped the rain would last long enough to get them out of the drought and have the severe water restrictions lifted.

As Hayley walked along the bridge she could see that the rain had filled the river back up. It was nice to see people playing in puddles and stomping around in the mud. She was happy.



Hayley was thrilled when she heard the news that the water restrictions had been ranked lower again. She was very proud that her family was able to make a difference in their community by showing everyone her 'Saving Water Plan'.

Although everyone could now water their gardens and wash their cars she hoped they would continue to help save water so things wouldn't get so bad the next time there was a drought.









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