



The Willows Primary School

Growing Outside

Tuesday 21st June 2022.

Weather: Bright sunny day.

Growing Outside

Children: Year 3

Water.

Today at Growing Outside Year 3 were in the Quad and it was all about WATER! Water is incredibly important. All life on the planet depends upon it. Ourselves and animals need to drink it. Becoming dehydrated can make you feel sick, tired, can cause issues for your kidneys, you won't be able to concentrate as much, meaning school work will suffer too. We also need it to keep ourselves clean and our homes. Our food crops and all plants need water too.

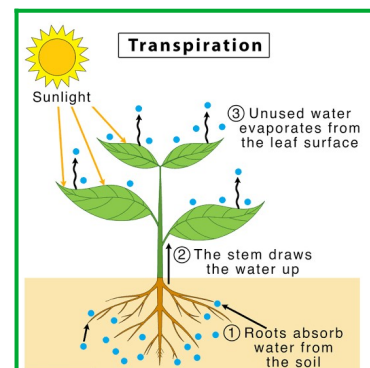


Dry reservoir

As water is so important we have to be careful to not waste it. In the hot weather water wastage can lead to a water shortage. If there is no rain this could then lead to a drought, meaning water would be scarce and the planet would suffer.

Simple things such as making sure taps aren't dripping or left on when cleaning teeth. Swapping a bath for a quick shower. Reusing water from baths and washing up to water our plants. Putting bottles of water in the fridge so cold water is always available, rather than running the cold tap until it gets colder. All these small changes can save 100's of litres of water a day throughout the country.

We can also waste a lot of water watering our plants. We can reuse water but watering in very hot weather can waste it too. On a sunny day when the ground is very hot and dry, water will just evaporate. It is best to water plants first thing in the morning, or the evening. In any weather, pouring water over the top of a plant can be a waste.





The water can just run off the leaves missing the plant completely. It is always best to water the bottom of the plant. The children knew this is where the roots are and it is the roots that suck up the water, spreading it to the rest of the plants. To help our plants and to conserve water in the garden, the children were going to use some watering devices that will water the plants roots. I showed the children some different examples

of watering bottles. Some you bury and some you lay on top of the soil. The less holes in the bottle the slower the water would be released which would be perfect for the quad or if you are going on holiday.



The children worked in pairs to make their bottles. They decided how they wanted to cut them and how many holes they wanted the bottle to have. They used bottles of different shapes and sizes, I wonder which works best?

To make the holes the children used thick sewing needles. They had to be very sensible as they were sharp. The kids did really well and all the bottles were finished.

We didn't need to bury any near the willow tree. The tree is very big and its roots will travel very far underground where the soil won't be dry.



It is the smaller plants such as the vegetables we are trying to grow, that need the water. Their roots are closer to the surface. The children buried their bottles amongst the onions, broad beans, runner beans, peas and carrots. They then filled the bottles with water. Now if any one needs to water the plants, they can just fill the bottles without wasting any water.

Well done year 3

Dawn