

16- SAVE WATER; SAVE LIFE



Akash lives in a village. There is a shortage of water in his village. The villagers decided to save each and every drop of water during the rainy season. They decided to implement this idea as soon as it starts raining. The news gets published in the newspapers. Akash receives a letter from his cousin Pooja in this regard. He gives a quick reply:

Village and post Bisara

Tehsil Sirathu

District Kaushambi

27th October, 2017

I am really happy to receive your letter regarding the ideas of water conservation. You are aware of the things happening around you. I appreciate your curiosity and concern for the natural resources. Keep it up! These qualities will definitely help you to grow in a responsible citizen. You have rightly guessed that I have attended the inaugural function of '**Water Conservation Programme**' in my village.

The word conservation means to save something. It may be any natural resource like water, energy, soil, plants and animals. Conservation of water means conserving water in ponds, wells and in the fields to raise the level of ground water.

We are living in a challenging era. Ruthless cutting of trees and destruction of forests have resulted in scanty rainfall. This leads to the scarcity of water almost everywhere which is adversely affecting the cultivation of crops. How can we be happy with thirsty soil? If the fields do not get plenty of water the production of food gets affected and the villagers start migrating towards cities. The cities get overcrowded resulting in air and water pollution.

The government has motivated all the sections of the society to come forward and save each and every drop of water. We are the witness to the emptied and dried up rivers, ponds, wells and tubewells. We should not sit silently. Under the **'Water Conservation Programme'** we are trying to harvest rainwater at different levels.

The farmers will be made to store water in their fields by building 'Medh' or 'Bunds' around their fields. Similarly, water bodies like wells and ponds will be deepened and cleaned. The old dams will be repaired and new dams will be constructed across the rivers so that we can conserve more water. What a wonderful scene it will be when our wells, ponds, and rivers will be full of water and the children will be seen swimming in the ponds of their village. The tubewells will automatically get recharged and will continue to give us water throughout the year.

I would like to mention that the government alone cannot do everything. Similarly, shouting slogans will not be of any help. Water is essential for everybody. So, everybody including we children should participate in the '**Water Conservation Programme**'. I have seen all the people voluntarily coming forward and working hand in hand for this noble cause.

Hope you will be benefitted with what I have written in this letter. Do share it with your friends. Keep writing letters to get information on other burning topics also.

Please convey my regards to everybody in the family.

Your cousin

Akash

New Words

Word	Pronunciation	Meaning
conservation	- कनज़(र)वेश्	- संरक्षण
inaugural	- इनाॅग्रल	- उद्घाटन
adversely	- ऐड्व(र)सलि	- प्रतिकूल रूप से
scarcity	- स्कॅअ(र)स्टी	- अभाव
migrate	- माइग्रेट्	- अन्य स्थान पर जाना

overcrowded - ओवक्राउडिड - लोगों से ठसाठस भरा हुआ

accommodate- अ कॉमडेट्ट - हरने की सविधा होना

ruthless - रूथलस् - कठोर

voluntarily - वॉलन्ट्रिलि - स्वेच्छा से

Comprehension Questions

1. Answer the following questions:

- a. Where does Akash live?
- b. What was the problem of the villagers? What did they decide to do?
- c. Which programme was launched in the village?
- d. What is meant by the word conservation?
- e. What activities have been done under the 'Water Conservation Programme'?

2. Choose the correct option:

a. A dam is a -

- (i) river (ii) big wall across a river
(iii) pond (iv) well

b. A 'slogan' means -

- (i) words or phrases giving message
- (ii) sentences used in a newspaper
- (iii) dialogues in a film
- (iv) a kind of game

c. The word conservation means to -

- (i) waste something
- (ii) use something
- (iii) save something
- (iv) make something

Word Power

1. Choose the correct nouns from the box and write in the spaces given below. One has been done for you:



Verbs

Nouns

create creator

dedicate _____

know _____

produce _____

fail _____

laugh _____

enjoy _____

2. Fill in the blanks with the words given, to complete the paragraph.

thirsty wash floor bathe school

woke rang kitchen water flow

One morning, when Geeta's mother went to the ____ and turned on the tap, there was no water. "How can I make tea without _____?", she complained. Soon, father _____ up. He also turned on the tap. "There's no water", he said, "How can I _____ without water?" The door bell _____ and the maid came in. She began to grumble, "How will I _____ the dishes and clothes, and mop the _____?" By then Geeta was ready for _____. She could not fill her water bottle and cried, "I'll be _____ all day." Just then the water began to ____ from the tap. Mother smiled and everyone began to do all that they were wanting to do.



Language Practice

1. Make sentences with 'more than' and 'fewer than' using the table given below:

There are	more fewer	books	on this desk	than	on that desk.
		letters	in this word		in that word.
		boys	in our class		in the other class.

Let's Know More

» Dams are massive barriers built across rivers and streams to confine and utilize the flow of water for human purposes such as irrigation and generation of hydroelectricity. Tehri Dam is the highest dam in India and one of the highest dams in the world. It is located on the Bhagirathi River near Tehri in Uttarakhand.

Tehri Dam

