

Water Debate

We will be discussing as a class the benefits of tap water compared to bottled water.

Divide the class into 2 groups, have one group develop a case for tap water and the other group on bottled water.

- Have the groups spend a period researching their position
- The entire class will participate in the debate – each member of every group should share their position and provide opportunities for rebuttals
 - Opening Statement – include the main arguments
 - Discuss topics – include the main ideas on tap water or bottled water positions
 - Rebuttal – time allotted for answering questions from other teams
 - Closing Statement – present the closing arguments for the team and provide reasons
- Debate Rules:
 - No put downs, everyone's ideas should be valued and heard
 - Raise your hand if you need to speak
 - Each case should be 10 minutes long
 - Allow time for questions

Tap water is....

CONVENIENT

Tap water is a convenient choice. You can refill a reusable water bottle anywhere you have access to a fountain or tap!

There is a wide range of reusable water bottles available to suit your lifestyle. Pick one with a fun pattern and include your name somewhere so you know which one is yours.

More and more places are letting you bring in a reusable water bottle to fill up at a tap or fountain.

INEXPENSIVE

On average, a bottle of water costs at least \$1.00. For the same cost, you can refill a reusable bottle 770 times with Peel tap water.

And I'm sure you don't pay the water bills in your house, so it's free for you!

Recycling is always the best option for disposing of empty plastic bottles; however, the cost of recycling is very high. For 2021, the gross cost to recycle and process recyclable material in Peel is projected to cost \$34 million dollars annually.

ENVIRONMENTALLY FRIENDLY

Drinking tap water is an easy way to be environmentally responsible and promote sustainable practices.

Waste management

If a single-use plastic bottle is not recycled, it will likely end up in a landfill, where it may take up to 1,000 years to decompose. Approximately 50% of our plastic water bottles end up in a landfill as opposed to a recycling plant.

The production of beverage containers

Plastic bottles are a petroleum-based product. This means the oil used to make them is not a renewable resource.

Energy Consumption

A great deal of energy goes into the production, transportation and recycling of disposable plastic bottles. Choosing tap water eliminates the high energy consumption and pollution of our environment that is associated with bottled water.

HEALTHY

Water is a healthy, calorie-free beverage choice. It does not contain sugar like pop and juice, or caffeine like coffee and tea.

We need to drink fluids every day. Water needs vary for each person depending on age, gender, body size and level of activity. As the temperature and humidity rises, so does the need for water.

We should be drinking at least 2 litres of water every day so that we can stay properly hydrated.

Thirst is the body's way of signalling that we need to drink!

SOME HELPFUL TIPS:

You do not need to boil your water as Peel tap water is safe!

If you don't like the taste of tap water, there are many things that you can do to change the taste. Try adding fruits like lemons, limes or oranges to enhance the flavour. Or, you could use a filter pitcher (example Brita filter).

You may find that chilling your water makes it more enjoyable. Keep a jug of water in the fridge so you always have a cold glass of water to quench your thirst.

Remember to bring a reusable water container to school or wherever you go so that you can always take the opportunity to fill it up for free at a tap or fountain.

Check in with **Blue W** before you go somewhere new so that you can locate convenient refilling locations.

Be a tap water champion in your school and remind everyone the benefits of drinking tap water.

DID YOU KNOW?

Canada's water resources account for approximately 7 per cent of the planet's renewable fresh water.

There are an estimated 884 million people around the world that live without access to safe drinking water.

The human body is approximately 60 per cent water and every system in our body uses water to function.

A human being can live only four to seven days without water.

In the Region of Peel, tap water arrives at your home, school or business approximately 4 days after being taken from Lake Ontario.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The Story of Bottled Water <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Se12y9hSOM0> length of video is 8.04 minutes

What really happens to the plastics you throw away – Emma Bryce
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6xINyWPpB8&t=13s> length of video is 4.06 minutes