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Water



Clean water is crucial for the survival of any living species. Absence of clean water or lack of access can greatly affect the quality of life of people, food security, health and livelihoods. Even today, millions of people have no access to clean drinking water. On these lines, this exemplar aims to help learners understand the importance of clean water and about local waters systems better. It also introduces learners to MINI SASS, a simple tool used to monitor the quality of water.



Exemplar on Water



The exemplar begins with an interesting real-life story of how people living in villages of South Africa used traditional methods to assess quality of drinking water. It follows with another story of how youth became enviro champs to help solve the sewage and other water problems in Midmar dam in South Africa. The story is accompanied with an eco-puzzle that students need to solve to understand the role of phytoplankton and zooplankton in maintaining water quality. Following this, is a simplified model that explains the impact of soil erosion and sewage on water quality. A simple water testing activity within the learners locality has been suggested to help students critically think and analyse the the cause/origin of water quality issues in their local community. A small diagram has been attached to help students understand how to use the MINISASS tool. This analysis can be further enriched with an ethical discussion with students around questions like:

- **How can we ensure that an adequate supply of clean water is available, both for today and for future generations?**
- **How equitable will access to it be? How and by whom should it be managed?**
- **How will climate change affect the quality and quantity of fresh water?**

Through activities like assessing a dripping water tap, understanding where our waters comes from and where it goes, students are encouraged to take Handprint actions to reduce water wastage and cautiously use water.