

Waikato

ENVIROSCHOOLS



How fresh is fresh?

This activity focuses on you using your senses (sight, smell and taste) to decide which water is ok to drink and which is not. This is important as we rely on clean fresh water for our health.

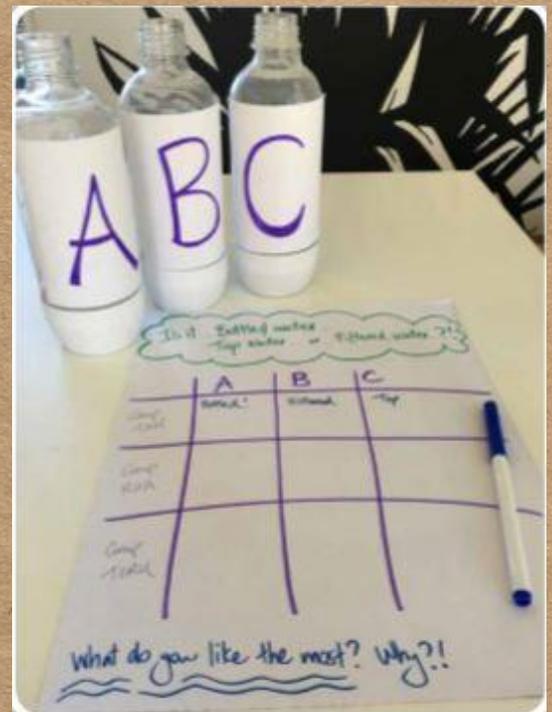
With a world demand for bottled water, people are relying on brand names rather than their own senses to indicate healthy water. This is a local and global issue with bottled water sourced in the Waikato and in other communities all across the world, and being sold when safe tap water is available.

When bottled water is sold, the bottles usually become waste products.

INSTRUCTIONS

You will need

- Some extra players
 - Three containers per participant labelled A, B and C
 - Some tap water, bottled water and filtered water (or water from a cooler)
 - Empty cups (enough for each person)
 - A pen and paper to record your results
1. Pour tap water into the container labelled A, bottled water into the container labelled B and filtered water or water from a cooler in the container labelled C.
 2. Invite players to use their senses – sight, smell and taste, to sample the water from each labelled container.
 3. Each participant guesses what each type of water is and states which one they would prefer to drink and why.



You could make a chart like this



Reflection questions

- What did this activity tell you about your senses?
- Which type of water does your whānau prefer to drink and why?
- What does it tell us about our demands and buying habits?
- Are all types of water good for people and nature?
- Should water be for sale?





Additional Resources

- Story of stuff animation of bottled water: <https://youtu.be/Se12y9hSOM0>
- Smartwater -Story of water (to your tap):
<https://www.smartwater.org.nz/teach-about-water/story-of-water/>
- Water treatment video: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fF_81LJOG_U

Extra for experts

- Consumer Magazine: Bottled water: Better than tap? - [consumer.org.nz-is-bottled-water-better-than-tap?](https://www.consumer.org.nz/is-bottled-water-better-than-tap?)
- Q&A: Water bottling dividing communities: <https://youtu.be/fwY5xzkYBIg>
- Global perspective: Australia: <https://youtu.be/XbxQy5En5Rw>
- Global perspective: American video of bottled water: <https://youtu.be/ftTtGmx7G6O8>
- Science Learning Hub: [VIDEO Detecting viruses in drinking water](#)

