Water Conservation  
Interactive Outreach Program

short line

# Goal

To increase awareness of prevalent water issues in New Mexico and encourage children to conserve water in their own lives.

# Materials

* Bin with a faucet/drain
* 2 clear plastic bins
* Safe, rounded magnetic metal pieces
* Fishing rods with magnets the ends
* 3D printed landscape of northern New Mexico
* Cups (at least one for each audience member + 2)

# Procedure

1. Water Leak Display:
   * To start, place the container with the faucet on the edge of the table with the faucet/drain off the edge. Place another bin on the ground underneath the faucet/drain. Open the faucet/drain to allow water to drip slowly out throughout the program. Acknowledge water is leaking at the Reference the amount of water that dripped out through the program and at the end to show how much water can be wasted in a short time period.
2. Water Pollution Activity:
   * Explain what water pollution is briefly. Fill the second plastic bin with water. Dump metal pieces into the bin with water to represent pollutants. Distribute magnetic fishing rods to audience members. Explain the goal is fish out the magnets to clear the pieces and “clean the water”.
3. New Mexico Landscape Display::
   * Use the 3D-printed landscape of Northern New Mexico to show the audience where their water comes from and how it is transported. This display can be specific to where the demonstration is taking place if possible.
4. Water Conservation Activity:
   * Option 1: Collaborative
     1. Have the audience members line up shoulder to shoulder. Distribute cups to each audience member. Pour water to the top of one of the audience member’s cups, preferably the audience member standing at the end of the line. Explain the goal to the audience, which is to pour the water into another audience member’s cup, trying not to spill. Once the last member receives the water, they must pour the water into a cup on a table. Express how much water the audience saved compared to the initial amount of water.
   * Option 2: Competitive and Collaborative
     1. Have the audience members line up shoulder to shoulder into two separate lines. Distribute cups to each audience member. Pour water to the top of the audience members’ cups at the beginning of each line. Explain the goal to the audience, which is to pour the water into another audience member’s cup next to them in the line, trying not to spill. The team that saves the most amount of water wins. Once the last member receives the water, they must pour the water into a cup on a table designated to their team. Compare how much water the teams saved.
5. Water Leak Display Continued:
   * Close the faucet/drain. Acknowledge how much water leaked into the clear plastic bin on the ground. Explain to the audience that the water can be wasted easily and that the smallest actions can be used to save water.
6. Grab & Go Kits:
   * Distribute the water conservation Grab & Go Kits to each audience member.