

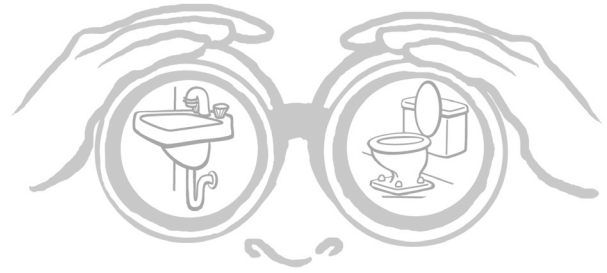
# Unit 2



Agent Name \_\_\_\_\_

(for Special Agents of the W.B.I.)

## Water Watchers



### The Stakeout

#### DIRECTIONS

Your mission, Agent, is to observe water usage and waste in your house without being noticed. Watch and document your family members' water use by answering the questions below. If you don't know the answer or can't sleuth it out, estimate or ask a parent for help.

#### Bathroom

How many showers were taken in your household today? \_\_\_\_\_

How long were the showers (in minutes)? \_\_\_\_\_

Do you have low flow showerheads (low flow showerheads use 2.5 gal/minute vs. 5 gal/minute)? \_\_\_\_\_

How many baths were taken? \_\_\_\_\_

How many toilet flushes were there today? \_\_\_\_\_

Do you have low flow toilets (low flow toilets use 1.6 gal or less/flush vs. 2 - 5 gal/flush)? \_\_\_\_\_

Do family members let the water run when they brush their teeth, wash their face, shave? \_\_\_\_\_

#### Kitchen

Do family members let the water run while washing dishes by hand? \_\_\_\_\_

How many times is the dishwasher run each week? \_\_\_\_\_

Is the dishwasher full when it runs? \_\_\_\_\_

Does your family run the water until it gets cold to get a glass of water? \_\_\_\_\_

#### Laundry

How many loads of laundry are done each week? \_\_\_\_\_

Are the loads of laundry usually full? \_\_\_\_\_

#### Outside

How many times is your lawn watered each week? \_\_\_\_\_

How many minutes is the lawn watered per watering? \_\_\_\_\_

Is the lawn watered in the early morning or evening to avoid evaporation from mid-day heat? \_\_\_\_\_

Estimate the number of minutes water is used outdoors for purposes other than lawn watering (wash cars, rinse outdoor furniture and clean equipment) each week. \_\_\_\_\_

Does your family use mulch to reduce water evaporation? \_\_\_\_\_



# Water Watchers

## Run vs. Rinse

### Directions

Many of us let the water run while we are doing activities such as brushing our teeth and washing our hands. This uses a lot more water than we actually need. Your mission, Agent, is to investigate how much water is used to brush teeth with the water running (Running method) and then how much water is used to brush teeth if the water is turned off while brushing and is only turned on for rinsing (Rinsing method). Then, calculate how much water you could save by using the Rinsing method.

### Materials needed:

Family member or friend

Bucket or container

8 oz measuring cup

### RUNNING METHOD

Have a family member or friend brush their teeth with the water continually running. While the water is running, collect the water and pour it in the container. Repeat this action until they are done brushing. Once the teeth brushing is complete, use your measuring cup to measure and report how many 8 oz cups were collected in the container.

\_\_\_\_\_ cups of water were used in the **Running** method.

### RINSING METHOD

Have another family member or friend (or the same one for really clean teeth) brush their teeth using the water only to rinse their toothbrush or their mouth. Collect the water used for this method as well. After this teeth brushing is complete, use your measuring cup to measure and report how many 8 oz cups were used.

\_\_\_\_\_ cups of water were used in the **Rinsing** method.

### RUN vs. RINSE

Calculate how much water is saved when the Rinsing method is used instead of the Running method.



\_\_\_\_\_ cups of water used in the **Running** method

**Minus**

-



\_\_\_\_\_ cups of water used in the **Rinse** method

**Equals**

=

\_\_\_\_\_ cups of water **SAVED!**