

# Checklist Water in the School Grounds

School:.....

Group (names of all pupils):.....

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 .....

Taker of the minutes: .....

Tutor of the group (name, position):.....

Dialogue partner (name, position): .....

Date: .....



Our school grounds are part of the hydrologic circle. Water rains or snows down onto the school grounds. But where does it flow from here? Are we able to use it or might it cause any damage? You will research these questions today.

Answer the questions in sequence! Be considerate when walking through the school or school grounds! If possible take pictures or do sketches that are in line with your topic!!

## 1. Water circle

First you should remember what you already know about the hydrologic circle. Draw a water circle on the board of your classroom.

Where would the rainwater naturally flow? .....

## 2. Amount of rain water

Estimate how much rain or snow falls down on our school grounds each year.

- a) First determine the length and width of the school grounds from the plan or by measuring the grounds with a measuring tape. (In case the grounds have a difficult shape discuss with your teacher how you could proceed.)

Length:.....m width: .....

- b) Calculate the area (length x width): .....

- c) Have your teacher tell you the rainfall in our region each year:

.....l/m<sup>2</sup>

Calculate the rainfall on our school grounds per year (area x rainfall):

.....l Translate the result into cubic meter: .....

- d) Try to imagine such an amount of water! Would it fit into your classroom, a pool or into the gym?

Calculate the volumes of these rooms:

Classroom: length.....m width.....m height.....m volume.....m<sup>3</sup>

Pool: length 25 m width 15 m height 2 m volume 750 m<sup>3</sup>

Gym: length.....m width.....m height.....m volume.....m<sup>3</sup>

- e) Also ask how much drinking water is used at our school each year: .....

### 3 Use of rainwater

Find out what happens to the rain water on our school grounds. Ask the caretaker for example.

- a) Is rainwater gathered and used?  yes  partly  no

If yes: what is it used for? .....

- b) Can the rainwater seep away in the school grounds?  yes  partly  no

- c) Does the rain water flow off above-ground, into a river, for example?  yes  partly  no

- d) Is rainwater fed into the sewage system?  yes  partly  no

If yes: How much money is spent on this each year?

### 4 Dryness and wetness

Find out if it happens sometimes that there is too much or too little water in our school grounds. Ask the caretaker or your teacher for example and remember what you have already observed yourself.

- a) Are there times when it is particularly dry during the year? .....

If yes: when is it? .....

Do the plants on the school grounds suffer from this? .....

If yes: how can you detect this? .....

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- b) Are there times when it is particularly wet during the year? .....

If yes: when is it? .....

Does the wetness cause any problems in the school grounds (like the schoolyard or sports field is flooded or muddy, or rainwater runs into the basement?) .....

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### 5 Habitat water

Are there any areas in the school grounds that are permanently wet ("wetland", tarns, marsh, etc.) .....

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Where exactly are they? .....

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Which special plants and animals do live there?

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## 6 Evaluation and presentation

Now form an opinion about the water in our school grounds!

It is good ...

It is less good ...

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Discuss what we could do better! Be as precise as possible!

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Think about how you would like to present your results to other pupils and teachers!

Take your photos and make a quiz from them and have the pupils guess where the picture was taken in the school grounds.

Show how much rain falls down on our school grounds each year.

Write down your ideas and suggestions onto multi-coloured slips of paper and stick them onto a plan of the school grounds. If possible take pictures - you can take your own photos or you draw pictures.

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Now get ready to present your results!

