

Lesson 1

Years	Duration
5-8	1.5 hours +

Water quality

Class-based lesson and field trip

Your students will learn about:

- The water cycle
- How streams become polluted
- How to identify freshwater bugs

Students will also take water samples from their local waterways and learn how to test turbidity, pH and nitrate levels. They will also learn to identify the bugs living there. Once they return to the classroom, they can examine their samples and their observations of bugs to make an assessment on the quality of the water in their local waterway.

Book the lesson

To register interest please email education@water.co.nz

For more information visit watercare.co.nz/water-education

Before the field trip:

You will need to...

- Identify a freshwater stream, creek or storm-water pond within walking distance of your school
- Recruit adult helpers to accompany children to the waterways
- Carry out a risk management assessment.

What you will need to provide for the lesson:

- Laptop and data projector to show a PowerPoint presentation
- Whiteboard and marker pens

You may also like to download the following resources from watercare.co.nz/kids-stuff

- 20+ amazing water facts
- Learn about the water cycle
- Water-wise tips and tricks
- Download activity sheets and games

NZ Curriculum

See how this lesson relates to the curriculum [on this page.](#)

This is a guided activity with one of Watercare's own education co-ordinators.