

## About The Big Wish for Ethiopia

Involve your youth group in Yorkshire Water and WaterAid's Big Wish for Ethiopia campaign and help raise funds to help support WaterAid's vital work bringing clean water and toilets to the poorest communities in Ethiopia.

These downloads provide some ideas for activities that help young people understand the situation faced by villages in Ethiopia without access to these basics.

### Yorkshire Water is working with WaterAid to help bring clean water to 130,000 people in Ethiopia

Yorkshire Water understands how essential safe water and sanitation are to human health. Safe water is a key strand of Yorkshire Water's vision and we're committed to providing these essential services for a growing population in the UK, we're also committed to supporting WaterAid and the work it does to help the poorest communities across the world.

### What is WaterAid?

WaterAid is an international charity that transforms lives by improving access to **safe water**, **hygiene** and **sanitation** in the world's poorest communities.



WaterAid/Behailu Shiferaw

### Fundraising wishing well template

As a fun way to collect money for *The Big Wish for Ethiopia*, we've included a wishing well moneybox template in the Fundraising section of the website. The template is intended to be photocopied and given to children to take home and mount onto card with an adult. Children can then colour in and personalise their wishing well. Any money collected for *The Big Wish for Ethiopia* can be kept in the wishing well before being returned and added to the total fund.

In the Fundraising section of the website you'll also find a downloadable fundraising ideas sheet, which outlines a range of ways to raise money for the campaign.

### Support film

If your youth group has access to a laptop or tablet with internet connection, there are a range of films that can be used to support this programme. You'll find these at [www.yorkshirewater.com/bigwish](http://www.yorkshirewater.com/bigwish)



### The facts

- ★ Every day 900 children around the world die as a result of diseases caused by dirty water and a lack of toilets.
- ★ One in ten people worldwide does not have safe water to drink.
- ★ WaterAid works with the world's poorest people helping them to access safe water and toilets.
- ★ It works in 38 countries across the world and (so far) has managed to help more than 23 million people.
- ★ WaterAid uses money raised to install taps, wells and water pumps near to people's homes. This money changes people's lives completely. Children no longer have to walk for hours to collect water, so they can go to school. There is less illness as the drinking water is clean and safe.
- ★ WaterAid helps by encouraging people to wash their hands properly to stop illness and disease from spreading.



# Big Wish

Registered charity numbers 288701 (England and Wales) and SC039479 (Scotland).



WaterAid/Behailu Shiferaw



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## How we use water

This activity helps young people to think about the importance of water in their lives by considering the many ways they use it.

### Resources

Ball

### Delivery

Players should stand in a circle with the leader in the middle. The leader should then throw the ball to one of the players and count down from five. Before the countdown has finished, the player who caught the ball should call out one way we use water before returning the ball to the leader. If the player is unable to do so in the time, they are out of the game. The leader then throws the ball to another player and so on.



②

## Water relay

This fun relay race can be used to introduce the topic of water and toilets to the group.

### Resources

#### Word board

Write out the words 'CLEAN WATER' in large letters. Cut out each letter and fix a ball of Blu-tack to the back.

Blu-tack

### Delivery

Divide players into two equal-sized teams (if possible) and sit them in two team lines. At the front of the room, place the jumbled letters and ask teams (on the whistle) to take turns to run to the front and select the correct letter to spell out the words and stick it on the wall. They should then return to their team and tag the next person in the line. The first team to correctly find the letters in order and spell out CLEAN WATER is the winner.



③

## Sing it

This activity uses a diary entry from an 11-year-old Ethiopian girl as inspiration for the creation of a song.

### Resources

Frehiwot's diary

Water Walk film

### Delivery

Show the *Water Walk* film (or read the extract from Frehiwot's diary) and then explain to your group that they're going to create a song or rap to express how they think Frehiwot (or the child in the *Water Walk* film) is feeling. The song should express their positive wish for the future. Children should be encouraged to choose which medium to use to create their piece.



④

## Water race

Following on from Frehiwot's diary, this game attempts to reinforce the idea that children like Frehiwot have to travel a long distance to collect water. Frehiwot's long journey to return water to her village has to be repeated daily as she is not able to carry vast quantities of water to fulfil her family's needs for very long.

### Resources

Buckets of water

Tablespoons

Cups

### Delivery

Divide players into teams and arrange them in parallel lines. The first player in the line has the water bucket next to them and should be given a tablespoon. Place a cup on the ground approximately 10m from each line. The lead player in each team should scoop a spoonful of water and as quickly as possible transport the water to the cup and tip it in. The player then returns back to the line and passes the spoon to the next lead player. The former lead player then goes to the end of the line. This process is repeated until one team fills the cup to the point of overflowing.



# Big Wish



## ⑤ How disease spreads

This activity demonstrates to young people how easily germs are spread and can be used to reinforce the importance of handwashing to prevent the spreading of germs. It should be explained that 900 children die each day from diseases caused by dirty water and a lack of toilets.

### Resources

Tennis or foam ball  
Talcum powder

### Delivery

Coat the ball in talcum powder and play catch / pass the ball for two minutes to see how quickly and easily 'germs' are spread.

### Variations

Alternative variations on this can involve a game that highlights the importance of 'thorough' handwashing. Participants should smear a small amount of cooking oil onto their hands to represent natural oils followed by cinnamon to represent the bacteria.

Dirty hands should then be washed using cold water only and the results recorded, noting how clean hands felt afterwards. Next warm water should be used and the results recorded. Finally hands should be washed using warm water and soap and the results again recorded.

Results can be recorded in observational diagrams and writing and should sufficiently demonstrate the most effective means of handwashing.



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# Frehiwot's diary

January 1st

My name is Frehiwot and I am 11 years old. I live in a village in Ethiopia called Ashalta. We do not have access to clean water in our village.

My mother Manahlosh used to collect water until I became old enough. Now this is my job.

Every day I leave home at six o'clock in the morning and walk for four hours to reach the nearest spring.

When I reach the spring there is usually a queue and sometimes fighting breaks out between the women there.

To get to the spring I have to cross a bridge made of logs. There was a girl

who almost died crossing the bridge because she fell off and the strap of her clay pot wrapped around her neck.

When I reach the spring the adults always want to collect their water first so I end up waiting there for such a long time that, by the time I walk the four hour journey home again, I have missed school.

The water I collect is very dirty but we have no choice but to drink it. Drinking dirty water often makes us sick.

One day I hope our village has access to clean water. It would make such a big difference to my life.



Frehiwot



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