

A Bucket? You must be Joking!



Water  Wise



RAND WATER

Do you Know these Animals?



Image by Ray Miller from Pixabay
<https://pixabay.com/en/Ray-Miller/>

Pied crows are clever and brave birds that are very good at flying. They live across Africa in grasslands, riverbanks, veld and open areas with trees. Pied crows are omnivores, which means that they eat animals, like insects, spiders, snails, rodents, birds and birds' eggs, lizards, frogs and fish, and plants, like seeds, roots and fruits. Like all animals, Pied crows need water to survive. Their diet of animals and plants all need water too.

Afrikaans: Witborskraai; Sotho: Pekwa; Zulu: Igwababa



Image by Chiem Seherin from Pixabay
<https://pixabay.com/en/Chiem-Seherin/>

Meerkats live in large groups with up to 50 meerkats in a group. The whole group works together to collect food, watch out for danger and take care of the babies. Meerkats are omnivores. They eat beetles, caterpillars, spiders and scorpions, as well as small reptiles, birds, eggs, fruits and plants. Meerkats live in desert and grassland areas across Southern Africa. They get all the water that they need from the food they eat.

Afrikaans: Meerkat; Sotho: Mosha; Zulu: Ububhibhi



Image by Miniformat65 from Pixabay
<https://pixabay.com/en/Miniformat65/>

Crocodiles are the world's largest reptiles. They are very aggressive hunters and have the strongest bite of any animal. Crocodiles hide and wait for their prey and attack them by surprise. Crocodiles are found all over Africa, as well as many other places on Earth. Crocodiles are carnivores, which means that they eat animals like fish, frogs, birds, reptiles and even large mammals. Crocodiles live in freshwater areas like rivers or lakes, and saltwater areas like lagoons and mangrove swamps. They spend most of their lives in or near water.

Afrikaans: Krokodil; Sotho: Kwena; Zulu: Ngwenya

Do you Know the Sounds these Animals Make?

Using a cell phone scan each QR code to find out:



Pied crow



Meerkat



Crocodile

Copyright 2022

All content in this book is copyrighted by Rand Water. Reproduction, duplication, transmission or commercial exploitation of this copyrighted material is subject to South African copyright laws. This book may only be used for educational purposes provided Rand Water is acknowledged as the copyright owner and the content is not altered in any way or form. Rand Water shall not be liable for any damage, loss or liability of whatsoever nature arising from the use of any information contained in this book.



For more information on being Water Wise please contact 0860 10 10 60 or visit www.randwater.co.za and click on Water Wise.

Carol, the crow, lives in the city. She is going to visit her cousin Ntsiki, the meerkat, who lives on a farm.

"Taxi! Taxi! Please stop!" shouts Carol.

As the taxi stops, it blows dust all over Carol.

"Oh, no!" says Carol, "I am dirty now," as she climbs into the taxi.



1. Where does Carol Crow live?
2. Where is Carol Crow going?

Three hours later...

"Hello Carol, I am so happy to see you," says Ntsiki, who is waiting for her cousin.

"Hello Ntsiki, it is good to see you too," says Carol, as they hug each other.

"I am very dirty," says Carol.
"The taxi blew dust all over me in the big city."

"How can I help you?" says Ntsiki.

"I am so hot," says Carol. "I need to have a bath to get rid of the dirt and dust on my feathers. I would also love a cup of tea, please."

The cousins make their way to Ntsiki's house where she makes Carol a cup of tea with sugar and milk.



1. Why is Carol dirty?
2. What does Carol want?
3. What does Ntsiki put into Carol's tea?

"Yuck!" says Carol, "This tea tastes bad. What is wrong with it?"

"Oh, Carol, the farm water tastes very **different** from city water," says Ntsiki.

"Why?" asks Carol.

"Here, on the farm, there are no taps," says Ntsiki.

"We use a bucket to fetch water from the river. It is very **heavy** and we must take care not to waste a drop. Then we boil it to make **sure** that it is clean."

"No taps? Where will I bath?" asks Carol.

"We bath in a bucket," says Ntsiki.



1. Why does the tea taste different on the farm?
2. Where does Ntsiki get water?
3. How does Ntsiki bath?

"A bucket? You must be joking! I've never bathed in a bucket before. Oh my! My bath, my bubbles, my taps! I miss you," says Carol, sadly.

"I will go fetch your water now," says Ntiski.
"The water in the river is not very clean. Some people wash their clothes in the river, or they dump rubbish in it. Some even use the river as a toilet. We boil the water to kill the germs so that we don't get sick."

"Oh yuck!" says Carol.
"I am so lucky to get clean water from taps in the big city. A bath on the farm is a lot of hard work."

Carol goes back to drinking her tea, while Ntiski walks down to the river.



1. What does Carol miss?
2. Why must water on the farm be boiled?
3. Why is the water dirty?
4. Why is Carol lucky in the city?

At the river, Ntsiki meets Ma Ngwenya, the crocodile, who watches over the river.


"What are you doing with my **precious** water?" asks Ma Ngwenya, "Are you making it dirty?"

"Oh no, not at all Ma Ngwenya!" says Ntsiki, "I'm just fetching water for my cousin to take a bath."

"That's good. I was worried that you were throwing litter into this water, when you know that water must always be respected!" What is the **password** to use my water?" asks Ma Ngwenya.

"Water Wise!" replies Ntsiki.

"Excellent! Now fill your bucket, and off you go, and use water wisely!" orders Ma Ngwenya.



What are you doing with my precious water?

1. What is Ma Ngwenya's job?
2. Why must Ma Ngwenya do this job?
3. What is the password to use Ma Ngwenya's water?

Ntsiki walks back up to the house and walks in the door, huffing and puffing, carrying the very heavy bucket filled with water.

When Ntsiki gives the bucket to Carol, Carol wants to pour out some water to wash her dirty necklace.


"No! No! I walked too far to fetch that water. It is too precious to waste on your necklace," cries Ntsiki.

"We always try to be Water Wise!" she tells her cousin.

"Sorry," says Carol. "After the water has been boiled, I will just take my Water Wise bath then."

While she is bathing in the bucket, Carol thinks about home.

"In the city, everyone is very lucky to get clean water straight from the tap. That is why it is so important that we all pay for the water that we use," thinks Carol.



In the city, everyone is very lucky to get clean water straight from the tap.

1. What does Carol want to do with the water?
2. Why must she not do this with the water?
3. Why must we pay for the water that we use?

After Carol finishes her bath, she sits down with Ntsiki.

"There are 6 ways to be Water Wise in a dry country like South Africa," Ntsiki tells Carol. "The first way is to respect all water and life on Earth," says Ntsiki.

Carol says, "I understand now that water is precious and must not be wasted."

"That is the second way!" says Ntsiki. "We must not waste a single drop of water. The third way is to make sure that rivers are clean and not **polluted** with litter and waste."

Carol says, "Aha, so that is why we must pay for our tap water so that everyone can get clean water."

Ntsiki says, "The fifth way is to fix leaking taps and pipes, throw litter in the dustbin and remember to recycle. We must all learn to take action! The sixth way is to look after and care for water and the **environment**."

There are 6 ways to be Water Wise in a dry country like South Africa.



1. What are the 6 ways that you can be Water Wise?
2. Draw pictures of the 6 ways in your workbook.

One week later...

"I've had so much fun," says Carol. "I bathed in a bucket, and even had a shower in the rain. I have learned to be wise with water while visiting you, Ntsiki!"

"Maybe you should take this bucket back to the city. You can show everyone how little water you need for a bath," says Ntsiki.

"I will!" says Carol, "I will never waste water again. Not a drop!"

On her way home, Carol thinks about all the ways she will teach people in the city not to waste or pollute water. "I will tell them all that water is precious. It is not a joke to bath in a bucket!" she thinks to herself.



1. What did Carol take back to the city? Why?
2. What will Carol not do again?
3. What does it mean when something is 'not a joke'?
4. What did you learn from this story?
5. What things will you do to be Water Wise?

Activities

Say the words

Can you say these words correctly? Listen to your teacher and repeat them.

- cousin
- meerkat
- feathers
- different
- heavy
- sure
- germs
- precious
- password
- straight
- important
- polluted
- environment

Use a dictionary to look up the meanings of any words you do not know.

In or on?

Each of these sentences is missing the word 'in' or 'on'.

Write the correct word in each sentence.

- Carol climbs _____ to the taxi.
- The dust is _____ Carol's feathers.
- Carol gets _____ to a bucket to bath.
- There are no taps _____ the farm.
- On the farm, they bath _____ a bucket.

Describing words

Use the story to match these naming words with the correct describing words below.

● feathers	● river	● bucket	● water	● country
------------	---------	----------	---------	-----------

- dirty _____
- dry _____
- dusty _____
- heavy _____
- precious _____

Make a poster

Make a 'Water Wise' poster to teach other learners about the importance of looking after water.

Act it out!

In groups, act out the story of Carol's visit to the farm.



LET'S BE WATER WISE



For more information on being Water Wise please contact 0860 10 10 60
or log onto www.randwater.co.za and click on Water Wise.