

Clean Water & Sanitation

Clean water isn't a luxury—it's a basic human right.

WE Charity helps to provide communities in need with localized clean water sources and sanitation facilities. We also work with individual community members to promote local education in basic hygiene practices and waterborne disease prevention.



This not only helps to reduce the spread of disease, it also relieves children—especially girls—of their daily treks to collect water, freeing them to attend school.

Did You Know?

- More than 780 million people around the world do not have access to safe drinking water.
- Worldwide, 2.5 billion people are without access to adequate sanitation facilities.
- Around the world, 1 out of 4 deaths in children under the age of five is due to a water-related disease.
- Diarrhea kills more than 3,000 children each day. 88% of diarrheal disease occurs because of unsafe drinking water, inadequate sanitation and poor hygiene.
- About 1 in 10 school-age girls in Africa drop out once they reach puberty because they don't have clean or private washrooms to use at school. Ensuring that girls have their own latrines at school is crucial to ensuring girls continue to receive an education.

Meet Matilda

Like most young girls in Sierra Leone, 15-year-old Matilda Yusuf is responsible for collecting water for her household, her parents and three sisters. Before **WE Charity's Free The Children** built a well in her district of Kono, fetching water was a difficult, even dangerous task for Matilda.

Sierra Leone's national water and sanitation system was completely destroyed during the country's decade-long civil war, causing widespread risk of water-borne disease. Although the war officially ended in 2002, contaminated water is still a very real problem in Kono. Stagnant water in the old wells is also an ideal breeding ground for mosquitoes carrying malaria, a disease responsible for 40 per cent of deaths in Sierra Leonean children under the age of five.



But the water Matilda hauls from the well every morning is clean, and suitable for drinking, cooking, laundry and other domestic chores.

"Clean water is important to our health," she says, "because sicknesses like typhoid come from unclean water." Matilda's family are not the only ones benefiting from the well dug by **WE Charity's Free The Children**. Local school children and their families can also access fresh water, she says.

Matilda is grateful to **WE Charity** and was inspired by the organization to pay it forward. "They are special in my life," says Matilda. "It encourages me to help others."

"Water & Sanitation" Activity



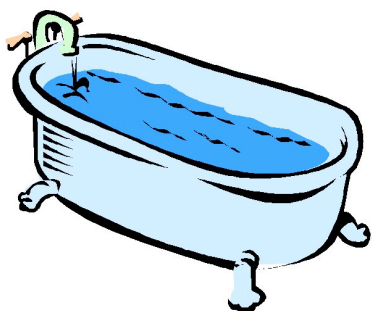
List 10 things you use water for: 

Rank:

1.	
2.	
3.	
4.	
5.	
6.	
7.	
8.	
9.	
10.	

Discussion Time!

2. Predict which activities would use the most water & rank them above.
3. Discuss which of these activities are most important to you.
4. What would change in your daily lives if you didn't have enough water?



FACTS: Personal Water Use Numbers

Taking a Shower (10 min with standard shower head)	200 litres
Taking a Shower (10 min with lowflow shower head)	90 litres
Taking a bath	150 litres
Brushing teeth (water running)	8 litres
Flushing the toilet (standard flow)	15 litres
Flushing the toilet (low flow)	6 litres
Washing dishes by hand	38 litres
Running a dishwasher	48 litres
Doing a load of laundry	120 litres
Watering the lawn	1136 litres
Washing car	190 litres

Your participation in the Dance-A-Thon will help provide hand pumps, build latrines and hand-washing stations and provide education around water and sanitation in the village of Rongena in Kenya, Africa.