

# Collecting Rainwater



## Lesson Report

In this lesson, urban farming consultant Jon Walsh taught Fiona's Grade 2 students **how to capture rainwater**.

Students learnt the importance of water and how it is used for everything from drinking, cooking and washing to bathing, watering gardens and feeding pets. They also learnt that it is a great idea to be prepared and know how to capture and store water if they ever need to, especially in the case of a large natural disaster.



And they're off! Students race to set up their rain collector.

Students then learnt key reasons why it is important to know how to collect rainwater:

- Saves money and increases water independence
- Can be used inside and outside the house
- For watering a rooftop garden (very useful if there isn't a tap or water supply nearby)
- Can save lives – especially if there is a big earthquake and the water supply shuts down.

Finally, it was time for action! Students learnt how to set up a simple rain collector system on the rooftop, then split into teams and competed against each other to see which team could set up a rain collector and catch water in the shortest time.



Students pouring and catching rain water on a plastic sheet.

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### What did students learn?

- The importance of water, and how it is used for everything from drinking, cooking and washing to bathing, watering gardens and feeding pets.
- The difference between conserving and recycling water.
- How to collect water inside the house and recycle it to use both inside and outside the house.
- How being able to collect rain water can save lives after a natural disaster.



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