

Beavers Global Issues Badge

Use A Soft Drinks Bottle To Create A Water Filter Using Sand And Pebbles. Talk About The Problems
Some People Have Finding Clean And Safe Drinking Water

My Water Filter[©]

By Samantha Eagle

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Global Issues Badge

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Overview

In teams and under your directions the children will make their own water filter.

Materials Needed Per Team of Two

- Large pop/water bottle
- 2 inches of Sand, pebbles and rocks (enough so that all teams will be able to fill their bottles)
- Water that is polluted with different types of objects (dried leaves, soil, etc.), at least three jugs for each team
- Buckets to contain the mess if you are inside
- Cups to collect the filtered water
- Scissors to cut the bottom of the bottles
- Coffee filter or fabric
- 2 x plastic cups

Directions/Leader Speak

1. **Speak** – Brilliant you've all done really well so far with your 'Global Issues' badge. There's just one more task to complete. This is to find out about the problems some people around the world have finding clean and safe drinking water and to make a water filter.

Water is something that most of us take for granted but currently 748 million people don't have safe drinking water. This problem is killing over 1,400 children a day. Water is the foundation of life. And still today, all around the world, far too many people spend their entire day searching for it.

There are many charities in the UK dedicated to helping unfortunate people around the world to have safe water. Maybe when you are a bit older you can raise money for those charities too

2. **Speak** – What we are going to do now is to create a water filter using sand and pebbles to try to get rid of all the large and small particles in the dirty water making it safer to drink
3. **Speak** – I want everyone to get into teams of 2
4. **Directions** – Give each team their supplies and slowly go through the directions on the next page with the children. For **STEP 1** the leaders or older helpers should start off the cutting of the bottom of the bottle. Or if you have all young Beavers you may want to prepare this before you start. They will also need close supervision for **Step 2**.

How To Make A Water Filter



Step 1 - Using scissors or a knife cut off the bottom of a water/soda bottle



Step 2 - Using your knife, scissors, screwdriver or anything sharp, make a small hole in the center of the cap.
Make sure the cap is on tight



Step 3 - Stick your coffee filter (or fabric) into the bottle and down by the cap. You may have to cut the size of the filter to make it fit in the bottle. You may need to use a pen to push the filter down to the bottom



Step 4 - Put about 2 inches of sand into the bottle



Step 5 - Now add 2 inches of gravel



Step 6 - Finally add your larger gravel or small rocks into the bottle. Again, 1-2 inches is enough



Step 7 - Your water filter is now complete! Just put the filter over your cup for filtered water. With the other cup, pour the dirty/muddy water into the filter. Watch your dirty water come out filtered! You would need to boil the filtered water to completely rid of all bacteria but for this task just tell the children that.