



KWEP was piloted in 2011 and is now into its fifth year. The programme came out of an initiative by Whangarei District Council to raise awareness in the community about our urban fresh water and wastewater systems and infrastructure. EcoSolutions delivers the programme to schools in the district.

The content and delivery of the lessons is tailored to suit the individual needs of both teachers and students. It is hands-on and visual with a range of student and teacher friendly resources supplied. All resources are electronic, so can be used on active boards and classroom electronic devices. All planning is provided.

Each of the three lessons uses focus questions to draw together a variety of issues from how much we rely on fresh water every day and what happens to it after we use it. Using the water cycle we track the water cycle from the moment it rains and humans take it from the natural environment for use, to the moment it goes into the septic tank or waste water system and back out into the natural environment again.

The programme is divided into three sessions each being 45 minutes.

The first lesson asks the question, how much do you value fresh water? We look at water on a global level and who has what. We consider how precious water is such that all life relies on water to survive; the purity of water dictates the health of all life. Students listen to stories, watch you tubes and consider their involvement in the water cycle.

The second lessons focus question is: how much water do we use? We conduct a water audit, monitor water use and carry out a water inventory.

The third lessons focus question is: how do we pollute water? We consider all the ways we use water and what else we put in it. Finally we ask, how can we reduce our chemical impact on water and the quantity of water we use. Students will be involved in a demonstration and consider changes they would like to make.

As you can see your students will be involved in various activities and learn a range of facts. Teachers can lead students into the programme ahead of time by introducing them to key terms and considering everyday uses for water. This would help them hook into the content I cover. There are documents in the teacher resource pack you can use.

Also, during the lessons, teachers are encouraged to document the content using scrapbooks, photos, iPads or any other methods you choose.