Hyde Weissenfluh:

Water wasting is an epidemic that happens every day at all times. As people in a developed country, we often take our water for granted. We wake up, take a shower, use water to wash dishes, we use it to brush our teeth, and we water our plants. I mean, it just keeps coming out, so why not use it? There are 7 billion people in this world, and many more billions of animals. 96.5% of the water in the world is salt, undrinkable, leaving only 3.5% of the water to be split between the rest of us billions of organisms. So the waste of water, even though it does not seem to immediately affect us, does.

Fish are fully aquatic animals, and many species can only live in fresh water. When we take the fresh water out of lakes and rivers, there are fewer habitats for these fish to live, which leads to a large decrease of population, leading to many species becoming endangered or extinct. A drop in fish leads to predators of the fish not being able to eat, this leads to a domino effect, in which all populations within an ecosystem suffer because everything relies on each other.

However, water can be easily conserved, by just doing simple things every day, people can save money by not paying for money, but also save other people and animals. One thing you can do is to limit the water used when taking showers, taking quick showers, or even attempting to do military style showers will conserve water. Another thing that can be done is turning the water off when washing dishes and brushing teeth. Many people, when doing these tasks, leave the water on the whole time, but if you turn it on only when you need it, countless gallons of water will be saved over time.

Sources:

<http://www.austintexas.gov/department/what-water-waste>

<http://wwf.panda.org/about_our_earth/teacher_resources/own_goals/wasting_water/>

Interview Questions:

1. What do you do for a living? -I am a zoo keeper
2. At you work, do you ever hear about doubts and how this affects populations of fish? - Yes, Once every couple months
3. Do you do anything to try and conserve water? - Yes, install low flush toilets, water outside a little as possible, rain gauge sensor, I berate my wife and kids to make sure they use as little water as possible.
4. Why do you believe that it is important to conserve water? - I base my entire life on aquatic animals and feel the need to protect them and the environment that they live in, it is a ecosystem that is vital to the survival of the planet.
5. As you have grown up, do you find yourself doing more to try and conserve resources? - Yes, I have become more mature with my water usage.

Why this is Important

Every person in the world needs water. Us students at east are very lucky; we have a steady supply of water, be it in the water fountains, or at home. However, not everyone in the world has that option. At East, we are a very world conscience school, so it is very important for us as students to understand how our use of water can affect other people and animals. As members of not only the east community, but also just as people of the world, we need to understand that our actions impact others, even if we cannot see it directly. So this project and poster will show the students of East that saving water can help people.

