



Global issue: water

Themes: poverty, health, gender inequality, education, global action, water conservation

Video link: <https://vimeo.com/freethechildren/review/254036749/4cc650aa29>

These discussion questions are designed to deepen your students' learning experience. Once you have watched the video, use these questions to test your students' knowledge, cement their understanding and introduce more complex themes and ideas. Students should be encouraged to share and discuss their opinions with their peers, developing their communication, argument formation, information literacy and critical thinking skills. Whilst we have differentiated the questions for primary and secondary age groups, feel free to mix and match the questions as appropriate for your group.

Primary

- 1) Why do we need to drink clean water every day?
- 2) Many children and adults in developing countries walk miles every day to access water. This water is often dirty. How does this make you feel?
- 3) Think about the last time you felt thirsty. What impact would it have on your health if you had to drink dirty water every day to survive?
- 4) Why are women and girls' education likely to suffer due to poor access to water?
- 5) How does WE Villages support people in developing countries to gain access to clean drinking water?
- 6) How can you take positive steps to raise awareness of the importance of clean water access in the developing world?

P.T.O. for secondary age group discussion questions...



Secondary

Suggested responses and links to further resources have been included for some of the secondary questions, enabling you to facilitate a meaningful discussion and enhance your students' learning.

- 1) How did watching this video make you feel?
- 2) What are the key things you learned from this video? What are some of the facts?
- 3) The issue of water access holds children back from attending school. What are some of the reasons? Consider some reasons that were not explained in the video.

Suggested responses include:

- Children spend much of their day walking to fetch water, leaving little time to attend school.
- Drinking unclean water often affects children's health, exposing them to waterborne illnesses.
- Drought often causes poor harvests, leading to hunger and malnutrition. In these circumstances, children often find it difficult to learn or need to stay at home.
- In many cases, schools lack even basic toilets, leaving girls embarrassed and reluctant to go to school. This is an increased problem when girls reach puberty.

Visit [WE.org/gb/we-villages/water/](https://www.we.org/gb/we-villages/water/) to learn more about clean water and how our water pillar is making an impact through WE Villages.

- 4) The responsibility for collecting clean water falls disproportionately on women and girls. How does this relate to gender equality?

Suggested responses include:

- Women retain their traditional role within the household as mothers and caregivers.
 - In many cultures, women have traditionally been viewed as less valuable than men in economic, social and physical terms and are therefore held back from attending school. For example, some families prefer to have sons to continue on the family's male line.
 - Women are vulnerable to attack when walking to fetch water or going outside to use the bathroom.
- 5) In developing communities, water is considered a precious commodity. How can we conserve more water?
 - 6) What actions could you take to help developing communities gain access to water?

Make a positive impact to your global community and learn more about access to clean water for everyone with our WE Walk For Water campaign materials at [WE.org/gb/wewalkforwater](https://www.we.org/gb/wewalkforwater).