



Go to the Source: Your Town's Tap Water

Name: _____ Date: _____

Use this worksheet to guide your research. Be sure to use both primary and secondary sources.

Research Results:

1. What is the source of our local water? (lake, river, etc.) _____
2. Where is our local reservoir? _____
3. Is there any information on our town's Web site about water quality? _____
4. Other notes: _____

Our Water Cycle:

Sketch the path your water takes to get to your home in the box below.



Share Your Thoughts:

What are your feelings about using a reusable water bottle and taking other steps to reduce waste? Write your response on the back of this page. Then, ask your teacher if you can post your thoughts online at www.scholastic.com/brita.

Source: 1. Fishman, Charles. "Message in a Bottle." *Fast Company* magazine. July 2007:110.

Classroom Experiment: Taste-Testing Our Water

The taste difference may not be significantly noticeable; it will depend on the quality of the tap water.

Now you know how clean tap water gets to your home. But is there a way to make it taste better? Conduct the experiment below to find out.

You will need:

- 1 cup of cold tap water (per tester)
- 1 cup of filtered cold tap water (use a Brita® pitcher or Brita® faucet filtration system) from the same faucet (per tester)
- Colored marker

What you will do:

1. Decide who on your team will be the "testers" and who will be the "recorder."
2. Ask the testers to make a hypothesis about which type of water they will prefer to drink—tap water or filtered water.
3. The recorder should fill half of the testers' cups with Brita® filtered tap water and the other half with tap water. The recorder should then secretly label one type of water "A" and one type of water "B." (Be sure the recorder remembers which is which!)
4. Ask the testers to smell cups A and B. Record their observations.
5. Ask the testers to take a taste of cups A and B. Record their observations.

What are your team's conclusions? Did your conclusions match the hypotheses?

Make the Switch!

Go to www.scholastic.com/brita and take the **FilterForGoodSM** pledge to reduce your bottled water waste by switching to a reusable bottle!

One fourth of bottled water sold in the United States is actually tap water that has been filtered.¹

