Where’s The Drip?

Topic: Water
Grade: Kindergarten
Duration: 15 – 30 minutes

Students go on a hunt in their classroom and schoolyard to look for water and report leaks.

Curriculum Expectations
- Ke6: Communicate needs to – communicate needs to peers – communicate needs to peers and adults
- Ks11: Describe the functions of common objects found at home and at school

Background Information
Leaks waste water and cost money. One small drip from a leaky faucet can waste 30 litres or more of water everyday. A leaking toilet can waste three bathtubs of water a day. Talking to a custodian or parent can easily get the problem fixed. All that usually is needed is a small rubber piece called a washer to be replaced in the faucet.

Accountability
Students will be able to explain where water is coming into the school. School administrators and custodians will be aware of leaks in the school or around the schoolyard.

Teacher Notes
1. Introduce the concept that water has to come from somewhere. Ask students for ideas where water comes from in the classroom and schoolyard.
2. Take a tour around the room and schoolyard to find places where water can be found (sinks, toilets, water tables, bathrooms, hose nozzles, fire hydrants, etc.).
3. Discuss at each location if there are any places where water escapes or leaks or if we have control of the water at that location. Check faucets with towels and look for damp spots. Take a pad of paper and a pencil to keep track of locations and leak sites.
4. If there is a problem with leaks, whom do the students think they should tell? The custodian?

Home Extension
Go for a tour with your parents around your house looking for where the sources of water are, both inside and outside. Have the students look for taps that drip or leak. How could those be fixed? Report back to the class what they found out.

Lesson Comments
What did your students find? Who did they tell?
What did that person do with the fact from the class?