

## Wildlife Club Toilet Cistern Project.

### 'Kingfisher Submarines'

The wildlife club, were introduced to toilet cisterns and how they work. We discussed how much water a toilet cistern uses with each flush and the different designs of cisterns that are now available. We then decided to calculate how many toilets there are in Kingfisher school, with the learners doing a mental count and a physical one, in the areas of the school that they were unsure of. They came up with a total of 33 toilets in the school including the educator toilets. This figure did not include urinals.

We then did a rough calculation working out how much water is used in the school per day for flushing the toilets.

We guessed that each cistern uses 12L of water per flush. There are 220 learners. An average person flushes on average 5 times per day, so at school each learner would flush on average 3 times.

$220 \times 3 = 660$  flushes per day

$660 \text{ flushes} \times 12\text{L} = 7920\text{L}$  water per day!

Therefore the school uses on average 7920L of water per day just for flushing the 33 toilets.

We decided we needed to reduce the amount of water used with each flush. The learners decided we could put 500ml to 1ltr plastic coke bottles filled with sand into the toilet cisterns. They named the water saving devices 'Kingfisher Submarines'

We filled them with sand so that they would sink to the bottom of the cistern. Having now put a 500ml bottle in all the toilets around the school, we calculated that we have now saved 330L of water per day.

The learners filling the Kingfisher Submarines, with sand.



Putting the Kingfisher Submarines, into the cisterns.

