



A Lesson From School:

Tap Water  
is Cool



Good  
Morning

Today  
about: To  
Water



We are learning  
ap  
er



*I would like to dedicate this book to my mom's preschool, Seedsowers Montessori.*

*This school was the inspiration for my story. I like to spend time there when I am not in school because when I step into the classroom the kids see me as a teacher.*

*I have read many books to the students, and I have seen many different types of stories and interesting illustrations.*

*Thank you so much.*

*Abby Roth*

F



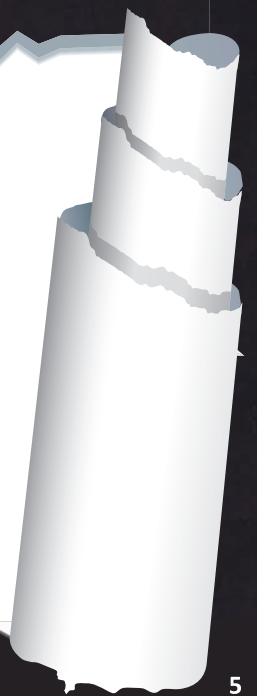


It was another hot day on the playground at school.  
I was thirsty of course and a drink would be cool.  
On my last round up and down the teeter totter,  
I could not get my mind off my plastic bottled water.





As my classmates lined up they looked equally as hot,  
but we all had waters waiting that our mothers had bought.  
My teacher saw our faces and said with delight,  
“Do not start drinking your bottled waters and do not get uptight.”



I am sure she had to know just how thirsty my classmates and I were; we were practically seeing double, and the playground was a blur. My teacher had an idea and allowed us to get a drink. She stopped at the drinking fountain – what were we to think?







We students all protested, but our thirsty mouths prevailed.  
I held my breath, took a drink, and finally exhaled.  
I have to admit we were very surprised that the water tasted good,  
and I wondered why the drinking fountain had been so misunderstood.

A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z



The water did the trick so into the classroom we all swarmed.  
Then my teacher talked about water so we could be informed.  
“Boys and girls I want you to know that bottled water is not so smart.  
You pay a lot of money each time you put it in your cart.”



ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ

Tap Water is:  
filtered disinfected  
clean!

Ultrafiltration  
UV Disinfection  
Going Green  
reliable



My teacher continued with her story about water and stuff, and she started making sense, strangely enough.

“Students, water from the tap is filtered, disinfected, and clean.”

She used words like “ultrafiltration”, “UV disinfection” and “going green.”

ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ

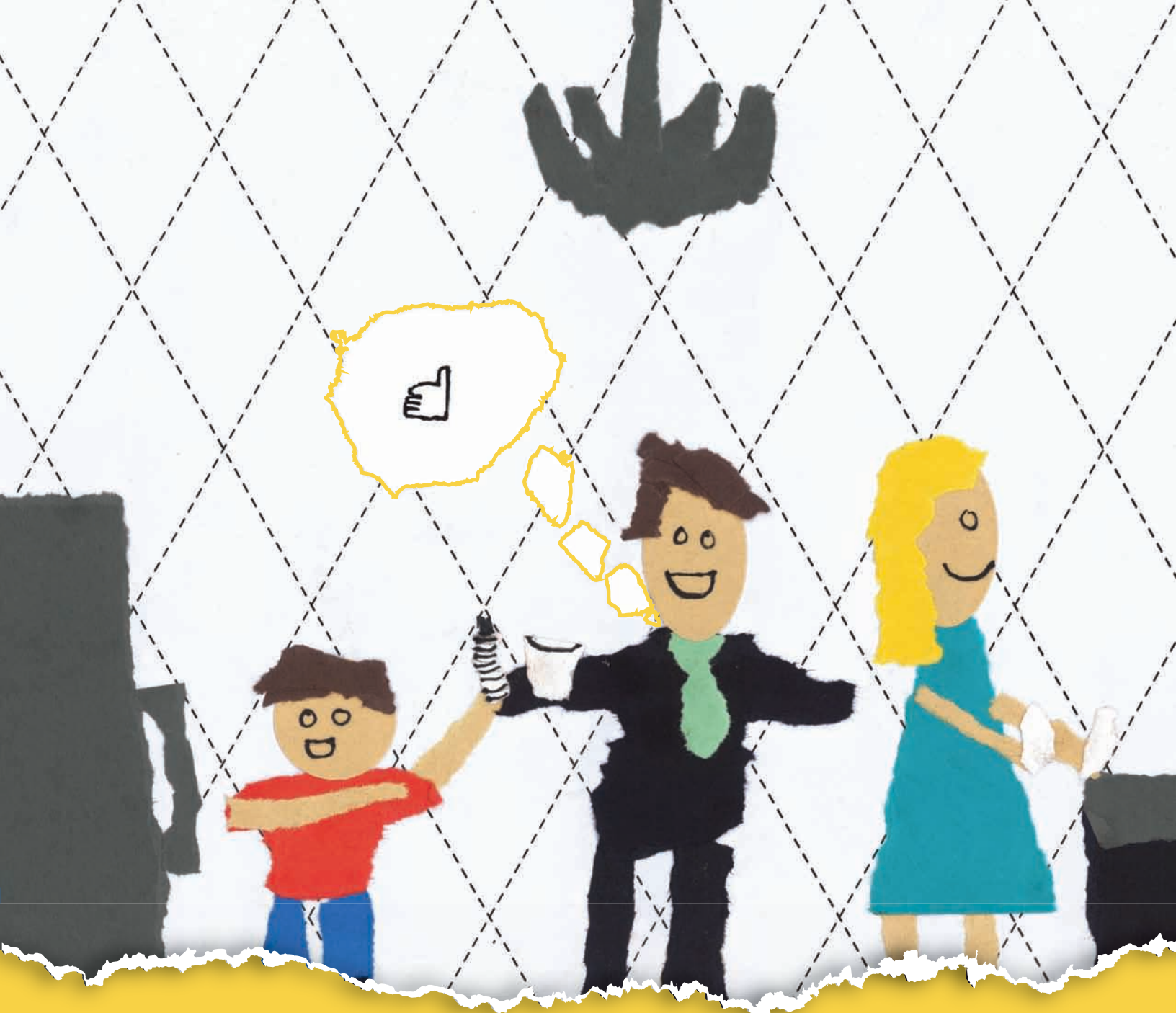
Experiment!

take a  
BIG  
Drink!



Going green means saving resources, the environment, and money. Water in bottles costs 1000 times more, and this is not even funny! My teacher went on and told us other important things – we all agreed. Such as, “Water from the tap is a reliable source, and it is all you need. We live in a country that has water to use, just by the turn of a knob. The water is ready and clean because the EMWD does such a great job.”





She told us, “Chill a glass of water taken straight from the tap.  
Then taste water from the glass and bottle; it’s really not a trap .”  
I took my teacher’s challenge and headed straight for the sink.  
I took both the bottle and cup and then had a great big drink.  
I could not taste the difference so I had my family try.  
They could not tell the difference so mom told the bottle, “Good bye!”



I told mom it costs less than a penny a gallon, from the faucet at the sink. My mom looked proudly at me, and then she gave me a wink. She started going nuts about all the ways we could save. “We can fill our own bottles from the tap and save money even in this heat wave!” “Mom,” I said, “You are right, and we can pack them in lunch for school.” She told me, “Yes, and for sports, practices, games, and even the swimming pool.”



I sure did learn a lot that day from getting thirsty, sweaty, and hot.  
I was glad my teacher did an amazing job on a subject that she taught.  
My class looks at water differently now, and we are smarter than before.  
Tomorrow we get to go teach what we learned to the class that is right next door.



Bottled Water



Tap Water!



filtered disinfects  
clean Ultrafiltration  
reliable!  
Going green





Hi, my name is **Abby Roth**. I attend Calvary Chapel Murrieta. I am twelve years old and I am in seventh grade. I enjoy playing volleyball, having fun with my dog, being outdoors, reading, and crafts. I also love teaching, babysitting, and volunteering in any activities with little kids. I think it is such a great honor to be participating in the EMWD program, and I am really excited about my book.

I have been a teacher at Calvary Murrieta Christian School for approximately 18 years and teaching middle school English for around 14 years. The staff and students here are wonderful! I graduated from Azusa Pacific with a master's degree in education, and continue to take classes so that I can stay current with the education system and benefit my students. I have been married over 40 years to a wonderful man, have three grown children, and nine exceptional grandchildren. I am very proud of Abby and her creative talent.

→Cathy Sissung





## Vocabulary Words:

**Clean:** To make clean by removing dirt, filth, or unwanted substances from something.

**Disinfected:** Treatment to destroy harmful bacteria.

**Environment:** The surroundings or conditions in which a person, animal, or plant lives.

**Exhale:** To breathe out.

**Filter:** A device that is used to remove something unwanted from a liquid or gas that passes through it.

**Going green:** Changing your lifestyle for the safety and benefit of the environment.

**Misunderstood:** Fail to interpret or understand something correctly.

**Prevailed:** To be greater in strength or influence.

**Proudly:** Very happy and pleased because of something you have done.

**Quality:** A degree or grade of excellence or worth.

**Reliability:** Worthy of trust.

**Reliable:** Able to be trusted or provide what is needed.

**Resources:** A source of supply or aid that can be drawn upon when needed.

**Smart:** Very good at learning or thinking about things.

**Thirsty:** Feeling the need to drink something.

**Ultrafiltration:** Filtration through something that allows small molecules (like water) to pass through but holds back larger ones (like bacteria).

**UV Disinfection:** Destroying harmful bacteria using ultraviolet light.

**Value:** The importance, worth, or usefulness of something.

## Acknowledgements:

Eastern Municipal Water District Education Specialist Malea Ortloff developed the award-winning Write Off program, now in its sixth year, in an effort to encourage a greater understanding of our most precious resource, water, in both elementary and middle school students. Malea uses a cross-age approach, which allows older students to write stories focusing on water related issues geared toward younger (elementary) students. Once the winning story is selected and published, Malea designs curriculum that is grade-level appropriate and also keeps the water message in the classroom for a longer period of time. This year the topic focused on the quality, reliability, and value of tap water. The entries were outstanding and the committee selected three winners.

**A Lesson From School: Tap Water is Cool** is a rhyming narrative poem that is charming and engaging as students discover why tap water is the preferred choice for drinking water. This story is certain to delight elementary school students.

Check out the EMWD website ([www.emwd.org](http://www.emwd.org)) to read the other two winning stories:

**Aguat's Adventure: A Tale of Two Waters and Dr. Tappentu Teaches Timmy to Tap Into Tap H<sub>2</sub>O.**

Eastern Municipal Water District wishes to thank the following student, teacher, graphic designer, and advisory committee members for their collaboration and contributions in the development of this book.

*Author/Illustrator*

**Abby Roth**

Calvary Murrieta Christian School, Private School

*Mentor Advisor*

**Cathy Sissung**

English Teacher

Calvary Murrieta Christian School, Private School

*Advisory Committee*

**Malea Ortloff**

Education Specialist

Eastern Municipal Water District

**Teresa Barnett**

First Grade Teacher, Megan Cope Elementary School  
San Jacinto Unified School District

**Vicki Sue Owens**

Retired, County of San Diego

**Meggan Valencia**

Public Information Officer

Rancho California Water District

**Amy Mora**

Senior Environmental Compliance Analyst

Eastern Municipal Water District

**Ailene Earl**

Education Assistant

Eastern Municipal Water District

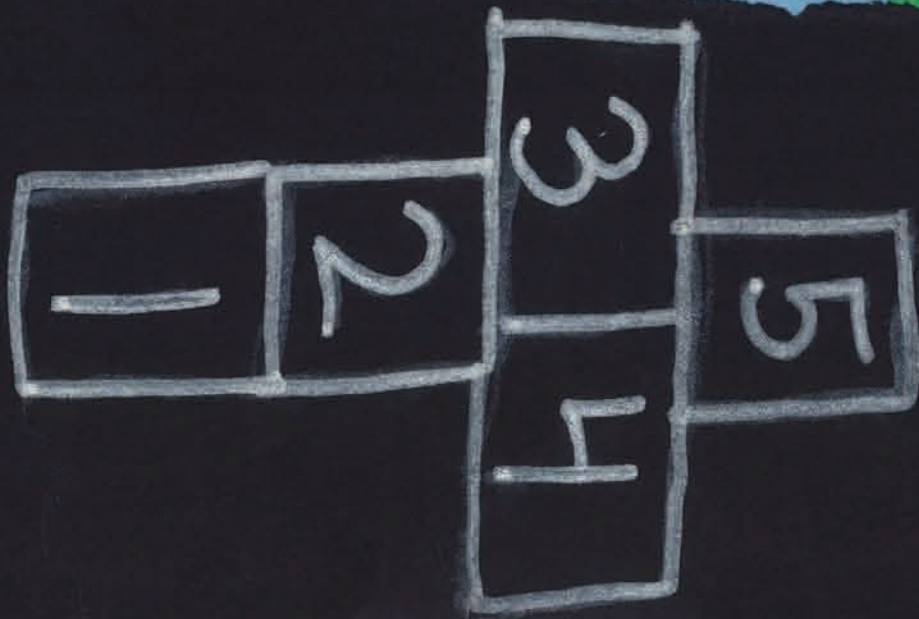
**Cindy Larmay**

Early Childhood Education

Editing

**Jennifer Drexler**

JD Design, Book Design



**tap into**  
Quality . Reliability . Value

This book is intended for educational, artistic, and water quality purposes. Permission is never granted for commercial purposes. Manufactured in the United States of America. The printing of this book was sponsored in part by Rancho California Water District (2014).

Copyright pending. All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced or quoted in whole or in part by any other printed or electronic means, or stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording, or otherwise, or for presentation on radio, television, videotape, or film without written permission from Eastern Municipal Water District.