

Welcome to your BIG Water Walk Toolkit!

What is The BIG Water Walk?

The BIG Water Walk is a powerful opportunity for your students to step into the shoes of the **292 million people who walk for more than 30 minutes each day** to collect water.

It couldn't be easier to get involved. Simply pick a date during Lent, plan a route around your school grounds or local area, and get your school community together for a walking challenge that will create a ripple of change for people around the world.

Why take part in The BIG Water Walk?

The BIG Water Walk is more than a fundraiser – it's a meaningful way for your students to live out Catholic Social Teaching, deepen their understanding of the daily realities faced by so many people around the world, and put their faith into action to create change.

By taking part, your school community will:

- Act in solidarity with fellow students and families across the world.
- Practice social justice and live out the principles of Catholic Social Teaching.
- Learn about water scarcity and the difference we can make when we come together.
- Raise vital funds to help vulnerable communities build a brighter, more just future.

> ***"It was moving to see so many of our students genuinely engaging with Project Compassion and its message of solidarity... This is faith in action - young people showing compassion and a real commitment to others."***
>
> – Jack de Groot

What's in The BIG Water Walk Toolkit?

The BIG Water Walk Toolkit contains everything you'll need to make a splash this Lent, starting with this handy How-To Guide, which contains step-by-step instructions on how to plan and run your walk.

Here's what else is included:

- **The BIG Water Walk Poster** – to help promote your event to students, staff and families.
- **Social Media Tiles** – to help promote and celebrate your school's incredible efforts.
- **Case Studies** – powerful stories showing how lives have been transformed through Caritas Australia's water programs.
- **Trivia Cards** – a fun and engaging activity to help students explore Patricia's story and the impact of water scarcity.
- **Sponsorship Form** – for students collecting cash donations from family and friends.
- **Route Signage** – to help map out and signpost your BIG Water Walk route for those taking part.
- **Certificates** – to celebrate the achievements of your school community.

We also have a variety of printed materials to help engage your students, staff and families, including printed versions of The BIG Water Walk Poster, BIG Water Walk bucket and participant stickers, and our iconic Project Compassion donation boxes. If you need any additional resources, just reach out and we'll do our best to help.



The BIG Water Walk How-To Guide

Use this handy step-by-step guide to bring The BIG Water Walk to life at your school this Lent.

Step 1 - Sign your school up

- ☐ Visit projectcompassion.org.au/schools
- ☐ Search for your school using your school name or Supporter ID (if you need a reminder of yours, please reach out!).
- ☐ Activate your school profile and follow the steps to select how you'll be fundraising this year.

  Remember, if you placed your Project Compassion 2027 resource order online, your profile will already be active. Simply log in to your dashboard, select The BIG Water Walk and add in your event details.

World Water Day

The UN's World Water Day is an international observance day held annually on 22 March. The day aims to inspire action to tackle the global water crisis and to raise awareness of the challenges that so many people around the world still face in accessing safe, clean water.

This year, World Water Day itself falls during Holy Week, so we suggest holding your BIG Water Walk on the Friday before (19 March) to coincide with this day and to connect your students to a wider global movement for water justice.

Step 2 - Plan your BIG Water Walk

Top Tip!

Get your student leaders, SRC or social justice groups involved in the planning to give them extra ownership and make the day even more meaningful.

- ☐ Pick a date during Lent to hold your walk – consider holding it on 19 March to coincide with the UN's World Water Day.
- ☐ Decide your distance and plan where your students will complete their walk, whether it's the school playground or a local park or oval.
- ☐ Decide whether your students will carry buckets of water as they walk, to help give them a glimpse of the daily realities faced by so many people around the world.
- ☐ Head to your online dashboard to set up teams for each class or homeroom to spark some friendly competition.
- ☐ Spread the word using the BIG Water Walk posters and social tiles to encourage parents to sign up their child – you can even add your school's unique QR code to the poster, making it easier than ever for your community to get involved.



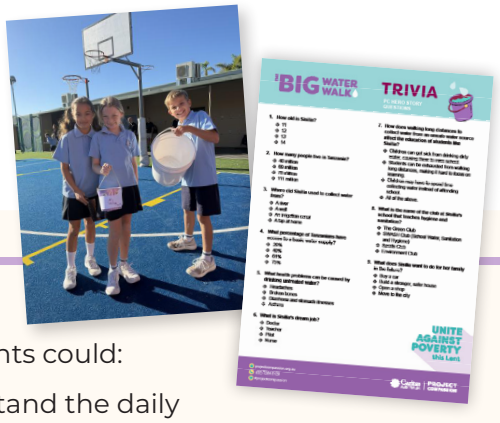
The BIG Water Walk How-To Guide

Step 3 - On the day

- ☐ Start with an Acknowledgement of Country.
- ☐ Share Patricia's story to help your students reflect on the challenges caused by water scarcity and the transformative impact of their actions.
- ☐ Pray together using the Project Compassion Lenten Prayer.
- ☐ If you've chosen to carry buckets, fill these with water and add your BIG Water Walk bucket stickers.
- ☐ Walk your chosen distance together in solidarity with vulnerable communities around the world.
- ☐ Take plenty of videos and photos along the way to share your school's efforts.

Step 4 - After your walk

- ☐ Celebrate your students by handing out The BIG Water Walk participant stickers.
- ☐ Give out a Certificate of Appreciation to everyone who took part.
- ☐ Share your school's BIG Water Walk photos with Caritas Australia by uploading them here.
- ☐ Reflect as a school community on the incredible impact that you have achieved together and the difference your support will make for families around the world.



Top Tip!

Consider extra engagement opportunities to remind your students of the powerful 'why' behind their walk. Students could:

- Carry buckets of water as they walk to help them understand the daily realities faced by so many people around the world – make sure to use your BIG Water Walk bucket stickers for this (if you didn't order any, please get in touch and we'll do our best to help).
- Pause at reflection stops around the course to learn about water justice, using the case studies to help bring this to life.
- Complete our BIG Water Walk Trivia to help them connect with Patricia's story.



By joining The BIG Water Walk, your school community is not just raising funds. Together, you'll be promoting justice for all, standing in solidarity with our global family, and taking action for a more just world.

Contact:

projectcompassion.org.au
projectcompassion@caritas.org.au
(02) 7254 5120
#projectcompassion

Caritas AUSTRALIA | PROJECT COMPASSION