

Making a Tippy Tap

Time	:	2 hours
Materials	:	Empty containers (beverage bottles), string, Tippy tap picture set
Age	:	12 or above
Capacity	:	Small groups if each makes a tippy tap

Aim:

To make a simple hand-washing tool that used in developing countries where resources are limited, and to show children what a small amount of water is used each time hands are washed.

Steps:

1. Explain to participants:
Tippy taps are useful when water resource is limited, especially in developing countries.
2. Making a Tippy tap:
 - a) Tie a piece of string around the bottle neck and bottle base to make a cradle.
 - b) Hang on the bottles with hooks on the supporting frame. You may also tie the bottle to the frame, tree or post so that the bottle hangs vertically, using the weight of the water.
 - c) Leave a loose bow at the bottle neck so the string can be undone and fastened again (if the bottle is not hanging on hooks).
 - d) Fill the bottle with water. If the screw cap is available make sure this is on tightly and pierce a few small holes in the top. This is so water can drip out when the bottle is tilted.
 - e) The height of frame should be easily reached, including by small children. Soap is put in a nearby place off the ground. (Some countries have a pedal system to hang the soap with strings)
 - f) To use the tippy tap: gently tilt the bottle towards your hands until the water drips out slowly. (if too fast, the bottle will empty too quickly!)



Source: WASH for Schoolchildren in Emergencies: A Guidebook for Teachers