

# Water Taste Test

Water can come from a variety of different sources and can have different substances dissolved in it. This causes differences in the tastes of waters from different sources. In this activity you will use your senses to make observations about several samples of drinking water.

PROCEDURE: Taste each water sample and fill in the data table. Describe the clarity (how it looks), the odor (smell), and taste. Then give each sample an overall rating based on the scale below:

5 = excellent, top quality drinking water

4 = very good, would drink daily

3 = fair, OK for cooking

2 = inferior, strictly for bathing

1 = terrible, wouldn't wash my dog in it

Sample	Clarity	Odor	Taste	Overall Rating
A				
B				
C				
D				
E				

Discussion questions – When you are finished discuss the following questions with a partner:

1. Which sample did you like the most? Why?
2. Which sample was your least favorite? Why?
3. Many municipalities add substances to their water. What do you think they might add and why?
4. In some areas people dig their own wells. What precautions should they take when using the water?
5. Why isn't taste alone a good judge of water quality?