



The Tapwater Tour

Code 5972

FAQs are from the Virtual Tapwater Tour Workshop at NSTA Engage 2021. Prices indicated and distributors may vary. If you have other questions please contact LaMotte Technical Service at 800-344-3100 x2.

Frequently Asked Questions

1. I'm not a science teacher. Would I be able to use the tap water tour with my students?

Absolutely! Background information for each topic is provided. Answers to questions that the students are asked during the tour as well as answers to the puzzles are included too. There are also resources, links, and ideas for additional activities if you or your students want to know more about a particular topic. If you already have a great curriculum, you'll find creative ways to enhance it with the Tapwater Tour.

2. What grade level is it for?

It's written for grades 4 through 8 but it is very flexible and can be adapted for other grades or student needs by adding extensions or highlighting specific sections.

3. How many students is it for?

Enough tablets and bags are provided to perform all of the activities when 50 students are divided into 10 groups for group activities and each student tests their own water sample individually.

4. Do I have to get a copy for each student?

Digital materials from one copy of the Tour can be duplicated as needed for classroom distribution.

5. What kind of container do the students need to collect the sample?

Any small, clean bottle or jar with a cap or lid will do. Plastic is always a better option than glass.

6. How long are the samples good for?

Time is a factor to consider – but the samples should be fine for the timeline of the tour [generally a week]. The tap water samples do not need to be refrigerated.

7. Do I have to buy a lot of extra things?

You probably have everything you'll need for the whole tour in your kitchen or school – like small amounts of baking soda, vinegar and hand soap. You'll also need things like measuring spoons and paper cups.

8. How do I have to dispose of the reactions?

The reacted samples can be poured down the drain with lots of running water.

9. Do the students need to wear safety glasses during experiment?

Safety precautions are outlined in the Instructor guide. Follow safety protocol put forth by your school.

10. Are the tablets hazardous?

The foil packaging of the individual tablets makes it easy to pass them out and add them to the test bags with minimal contact. Of course, they should not be ingested, and everyone should wash their hands if they handle the tablets. Safety information is included in the Instructor guide and SDS information for the tablets is available on the LaMotte website.

11. How are the manuals provided?

When you receive the Tour, instructions are included for registering for a confirmation code which will allow you to download the Instructor section and Student section of the Tour.

12. What devices can the tour be used on?

The manuals are provided as pdf files that can be shared within your classroom across Chromebooks, PCs, iPads, iPhones or they can be printed.

13. Can I get refills for the tablet reagents?

You can order a refill for the kit which includes the same quantity of the five tablets that came with the kit. You can also buy tablets individually in quantities from 50 tablets and up. Additional reaction bags and color chart posters are also available. A complete refill containing tablets and bags is also available.

14. Are the plastic reaction bags reusable?

The bags can be re-used if they are washed and dried. Replacement bags are available [Code 0793-H, \$26.50 for 50 bags]. Keep in mind that the test procedures and the color chart are calibrated to the sample size and dimensions of these bags, so they are necessary for a successful outcome. A complete refill containing tablets and bags is also available. Contact LaMotte Customer Service 800-344-3100 for current pricing.

15. How much is the kit for 50 students?

The cost of the tour is about \$89. You can also buy tablets, reaction bags and the color chart poster separately. Contact LaMotte Customer Service 800-344-3100 for current pricing.

16. What is the estimated shipping time if you order from LaMotte?

The shipping time right now is about two weeks. You can also get the Tapwater Tour through distributors in the education market. If your school orders from a Preferred Vendor List, you can give the vendor the code number of the Tapwater Tour, or almost any LaMotte product, and they will order it for you. For the most current list of distributors go to www.lamotte.com and click on Where To Buy.

17. And did you say there were other tours?

Other Tours in the series are the Topsoil Tour, The Pondwater Tour and the Watershed Tour.