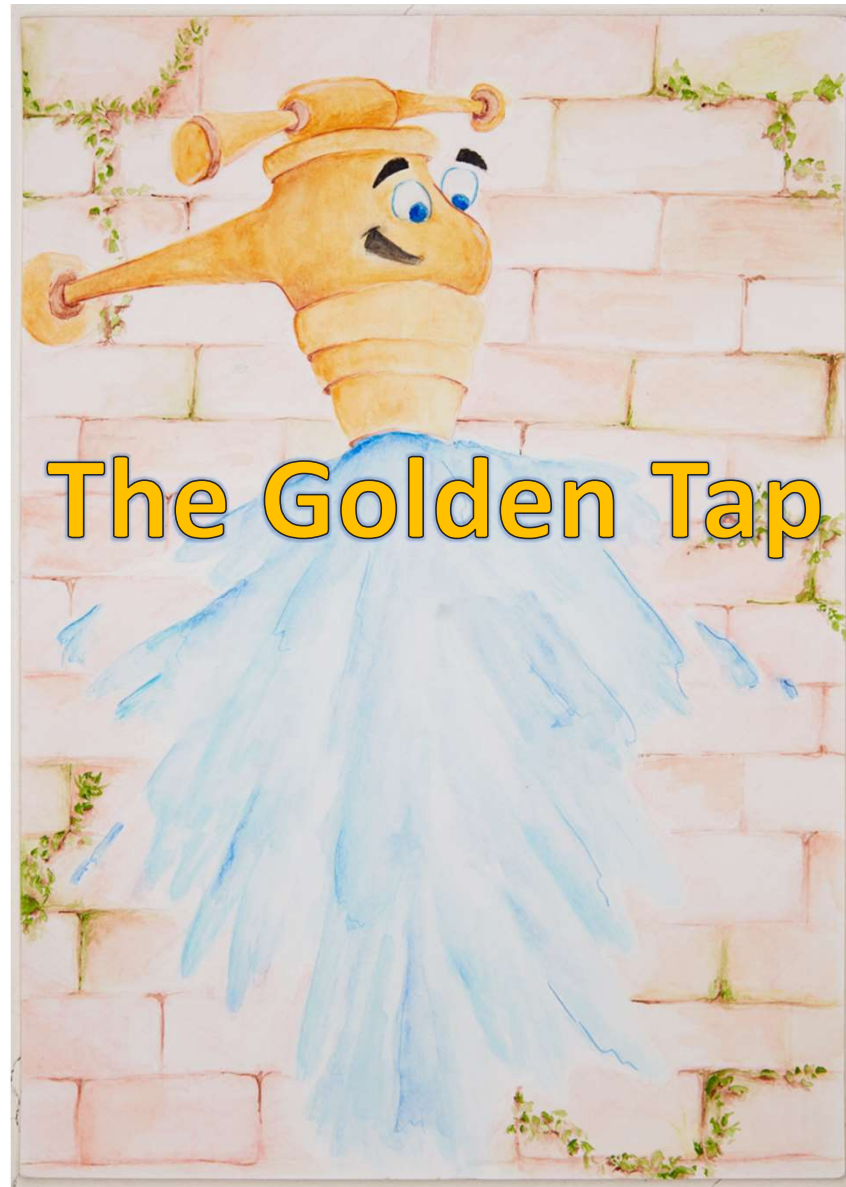




The Golden Tap





Once upon a time in a small town not too far away, lived many ordinary people... just like us, going about their ordinary everyday lives... just like us.

It was quite an ordinary town, except for one extraordinary feature.

The town had a large Golden Tap in the town square, which provided all the water for the people of the town and all that they did. They would come each day to the Golden Tap and fill their buckets, tanks and bottles.

Water for growing, water for washing, water for cleaning, water for drinking and all the usual things that they used water for.....just like us. It was beautiful, clean and ordinary water. It was cool and delicious.

Everybody collected and used it every day but very few people stopped to think about where the water came from



They went about their ordinary everyday lives ...just like us... using the water for all their needs until, one day, something extraordinary happened.

The townspeople all came to get their water as usual for all their ordinary needs, but the Golden Tap stopped working.

It was weird!

It was strange!

It had *never* happened before...and the people were puzzled.

They had no water for all their needs.

What would they do? They could not live without their precious water.

Everyone began to gather around the Golden Tap.



**First, the FIREFIGHTER went to the Golden Tap and asked,
“Golden Tap, Golden Tap, may I have some water for my firetruck and hoses?”**

And the Golden Tap answered,

**Swishy, swashy, wishy washy
Whoosh...splash
Drip, drip, drip.**

The Golden Tap could only drip a few drops of water. The firefighter went away very worried.

“How will I put out the fires? What will we do?”

Next the FARMER went to the Golden Tap and asked,

“Golden Tap, Golden Tap, may I have some water for my crops and animals?”

And the Golden Tap answered,

Swishy, swashy, wishy washy
Whoosh...splash
Drip, drip, drip.

Again, all that could be collected was a few precious drops of water.

The farmer went away very worried.

“How will I feed my animals or grow my crops?

We will have no food. What will we do?”





**The CAFÉ CHEF went to the Golden Tap and asked,
“Golden Tap, Golden Tap, may I have some water for my kitchen and cafe?”**

And the Golden Tap answered,

**Swishy, swashy, wishy washy
Whoosh...splash
Drip, drip, drip**

**Once again all that happened was a few small drips of water.
The chef went away very worried.**

**“How will I make coffee, cook meals or clean my restaurant?
What will we do?”**



**Next a local FAMILY went to the Golden Tap and asked,
“Golden Tap, Golden Tap, may we have some water for our home?
We need water for drinking, cooking, showers, the garden and the toilet and for our dog to drink.”**

**And the Golden Tap answered,
Swishy, swashy, wishy washy
Whoosh...splash
Drip, drip, drip**

**Nothing came out but a few drops of water, not enough for a whole family each day.
The family went away very worried.**

“How will we live? What will we do?”



So the MAYOR of the town called a meeting where all the townsfolk gathered around the Golden Tap.

They had to work out what they were going to do.

They could not live without water.

It was weird!

It was strange!

It was puzzling!

How could they get more water?

What were they going to do?

Why had the Golden Tap stopped working?

Where did the Golden Tap get its water from?



Not long afterwards, an interesting child visited the town and saw how upset the people were. She said that she was a WATER INVESTIGATOR.

“Why are you all so concerned?” she asked.

The townspeople answered, “Our Golden Tap gives us clean and fresh water. We all need it, but it only drips now! We don’t have enough.”

“I know where the Golden Tap gets the water from,” the Water Investigator said.

“Come and look with me”.

The people were excited! The people were intrigued!

They needed to solve this most difficult problem.



They followed the WATER INVESTIGATOR to see where the Golden Tap got its water from.

They took a path outside of the town into the country. It was not long until they all came to a lake. It was nearly dry and surrounded by very dry looking plants and trees.

The people were amazed!

The WATER INVESTIGATOR explained that the lake was where the Golden Tap got its water from.

She explained that when it rained, the lake filled up. Sometimes there was lots of rain and plenty of their precious water. Sometimes there was not much rain and the Golden Tap could not provide their precious water.

The Water Investigator also explained that because they could not count on the rain, they had to all help the Golden Tap, by being careful how they used, reused and saved water so that they could have plenty of water always.

The people were no longer worried.

The people were excited!

They knew what they had to do.

They all ran back to town as quickly as they could to visit the Golden Tap.

The people gathered around the Golden Tap and said, *“Golden Tap, Golden Tap, we are going to save water for when there’s not much rain.”*

The **FIREFIGHTER** promised, “Golden Tap, Golden Tap, I’m going to save water by not wasting it and letting my hose leak or letting water run down the drain.”

The **FARMER** promised, “Golden Tap, Golden Tap, I’m going to save water by carefully watering my crops in cooler parts of the day and not letting the water troughs run over.”

The **CAFÉ CHEF** promised, “Golden Tap, Golden Tap, I’m going to save water by only using water I need to cook and clean and never waste a drop.”

The **FAMILY** promised, “Golden Tap, Golden Tap, we are going to save water by having shorter showers, turning our taps off when brushing our teeth and making sure that our garden hose is turned off when we are not using it.”



Just then the Golden Tap began to smile again.... and shone as brightly as ever.

**Swishy, swashy, wishy washy
Whoosh...splash
Burbble, gurgle, gargle!**

And the Golden Tap water began to again flow strongly.



The townspeople were no longer worried, and from that day on they were careful with their precious water.

They knew where their water came from thanks to the WATER INVESTIGATOR. Now they could make sure that they had enough water for all the ordinary things that they used water for every day.

**Thank you from the
Seqwater Community Education Team**

**For more programs, activities and
resources head to**

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