**Water Quality - Worksheet[[1]](#footnote-1)**

## A first investigation of the quality of the water

## Part 1 – criteria

Water quality is tested and evaluated in different situations. In this lesson, you will consider in greater detail how this works in real life. You will test and evaluate the quality of the swimming water by yourself. Therefore, you must determine your own criteria as a group: what do you want to test in order to find out if the water is safe for swimming? How will you carry out these tests? Finally, you must provide a clear statement of advice: can someone swim in this water or not? Present your findings on a poster.

A. Remove the lids of the water samples and carefully study the water. How does it smell? How does it look? Study the sample, for instance under a microscope. Do you think it meets the requirements for swimming or drinking? How certain are you?

I think this water does / does not meet the requirements for drinking water.

I am fairly sure / unsure of this, because ………………………………………………

B. I think this water does / does not meet the requirements for swimming water.

I am fairly sure / unsure of this because ……………………………………………

C. If you are not very sure, what type of information are you still missing?  
To be sure that the water meets the requirements, I need to know ………………………………………………………………………………………………….

## Part 2 - similarities and differences

Take a look at the posters produced by each group. Potential questions you may wish to consider:

* What similarities and differences can you find between groups when it comes to evaluating water quality?
* Which samples are safe for swimming?
* How certain are you of the choice for their criteria?
* Have all risk factors been taken into account? Are you sure?

1. *This worksheet is adapted from a similar worksheet from the Compass module Water Quality* [↑](#footnote-ref-1)