

# Units of water

UNITS FOR VOLUMES OF WATER EDUCATION

#### Litre

- The amount of water which fits into a 10 centimetre x 10cm x 10cm cube
- Many drinks are sold by the litre. Check your milk carton in the refrigerator to see how many litres it contains.

### **Kilolitre**

- Equals 1000 litres
- The amount of water which fits into a 1 metre x 1m x 1m cube
- Coliban Water measures treated water for households and businesses in towns in kilolitres
- A garden sprinkler or free flowing tap can use up to a kilolitre of water in one hour

## Megalitre

- 1,000,000 litres (One million litres) or 1000 cubic metres
- Approximately 2 megalitres of water fill an Olympic size swimming pool
- Farmers are supplied with untreated water by the megalitre (ML)
- Coliban Water's largest reservoir, the Upper Coliban Reservoir, can hold up to 37,500ML
- Lake Eppalock is managed by Goulburn-Murray Water and can hold up to 305,000ML

## **Gigalitre**

- 1000,000,000 litres (One billion litres) or 1 million cubic metres
- Water flowing in rivers is measured in gigalitres (GL)
- Average Murray River inflows to the Hume Dam are around 4000GL per year
- The largest storage in Australia is Lake Pedder on the Gordon River in Tasmania which can hold up to 12,450GL
- The total amount of drinking water used by all the people in Melbourne in one year can be more than 500GL
- The Wimmera-Mallee pipeline saves over 100GLof water which used to be lost in the channel system through seepage and evaporation