

Athena's Adventures in Health Policy

Wet, Wonderful Water



By Ana Rita Gonzalez and Allira Attwill

Illustrated by Melina Sugliano & Rodrigo Palacios

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When Athena woke up on Sunday morning, her throat was dry and scratchy. “I am so thirsty!” she moaned.



“Here you go,” said Mama Owl, handing her a cup.
“Have some water.”

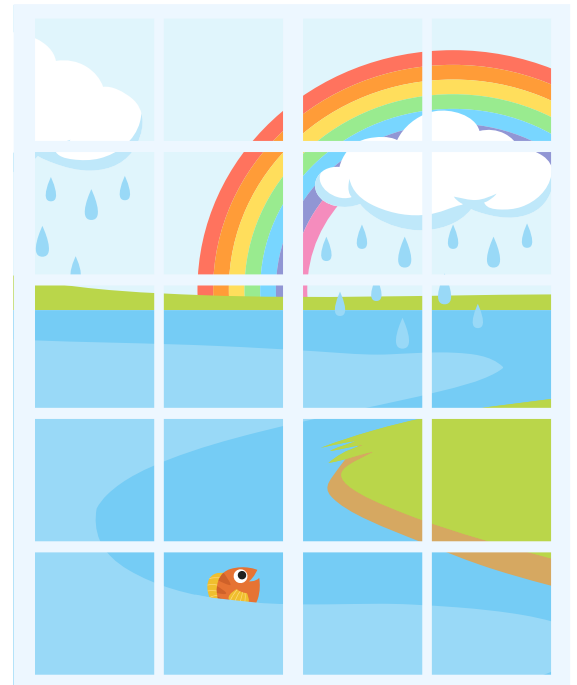


“Thank you,” said Athena,
and she drank every
last drop.

Setting down her cup, she asked,
“Mama, where does our water come from?”



“Water is everywhere, Athena,”
replied Mama Owl.
“It falls from the sky in drops
of rain, and we find it in rivers,
lakes, oceans, and even the ground.”



“But how does it
get to our house?”
asked Athena.

Papa Owl smiled and answered, “We have pipes that carry water from the river to our tap. Then, we can use it for drinking, bathing, washing dishes, and watering the plants.”



“And flushing the potty!” added Athena’s brother Odin.

“Does everyone have water pipes?” asked Athena.
“Not everyone,” said Mama Owl.



“In some places, water must be carried home
from rivers or wells in buckets.”

Tap, tap, tap.
Rain pattered against
the window, showering the
flowers in the backyard.



“Water is very important,” Athena decided.
All this talking was making her thirsty again!

Athena and Odin put on their coats
and went outside to splash in the puddles.



They stuck out their tongues to catch the raindrops.
Water was so refreshing!

Back inside, Athena asked,
“Papa, can we drink water from the puddles?”
“We can’t drink the water everywhere,”
Papa Owl cautioned.



“The water in puddles is too yucky...”



... and the water in the ocean is too salty.”

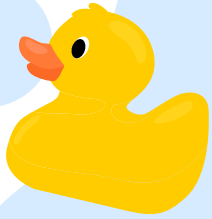


“In some places, water must be boiled to make it safe to drink,” added Mama Owl.

“An owl who drinks
dirty water gets
a tummy ache.”



“An owl who drinks
clean water can
fly and play.”



BATH
TIME!



Mama Owl turned on the tap and filled the tub with warm, soapy water. Athena hopped in, and bubbles floated everywhere.





“I am so glad we have clean water,”
Athena said. “But Mama, how can I
help others who don’t have it?”

Mama Owl smiled. “First, Papa and I can teach
you about potable water policies.”
“Potty water policies?!”
Athena shrieked.



Potable water is the opposite of potty water. When water is potable, it is clean and safe to drink.



That was a relief. Athena scrubbed her feathers and asked, “But Mama, what is a policy?”



“A policy is like an instruction from a parent or teacher. These instructions are given to us to keep us healthy and safe.”

Mama Owl continued, “The government makes sure our water is potable by creating policies that stop anything that makes the water dirty and unhealthy.”



“These are called anti-pollution policies. They tell us that water must be tested to make sure there are no bugs, which can make us sick.”



Mama Owl and Athena
went downstairs for lunch.
Papa Owl was in the kitchen,
stirring a pot of soup.



“What happens after our water is tested?” Athena asked.

“A tiny bit of chlorine is added to make it cleaner and safe to drink,” replied Papa Owl.



“Like a swimming pool?” asked Odin.

“Much less than a swimming pool,” Mama Owl said.
“Pool water has too much chlorine to be potable, but a tiny bit of chlorine is helpful for killing parasites, bacteria, and viruses.”



“Everyone should know about these potable water policies,”
Athena decided. Mama, Papa, and Odin all agreed.



“The whole world should have access to clean water!”

Bright and early on Monday morning, Athena flew out of bed and ate her breakfast. She couldn't wait to go to pre-school and teach her friends about potable water!



Mama Owl dropped her off at her classroom door, and Athena hurried inside to greet her friends.



“Guess what I learned?” she exclaimed.
“We can help the world by making sure everyone has potable water!”

“Potty water?!” gasped her friend Hui.



“Oh, no,” giggled Athena. “Potable water is the opposite of potty water. It’s clean!”

You can help Athena by telling your friends about the importance of clean, safe water. Remember...



POTABLE WATER
HELPS US STAY
HEALTHY.

THE GOVERNMENT CREATES
ANTI-POLLUTION LAWS TO MAKE
SURE OUR WATER IS POTABLE.



EVERYONE SHOULD HAVE
POTABLE WATER!

THE END

Can you find
five fish hidden
in this book?



Writing this series of storybooks is a dream come true and is more rewarding than I ever could have imagined. I want kids of all ages to know that working in health policy is as viable as becoming a doctor, an architect, a teacher, or a farmer.

Thank you so much to my teammates for helping me conceptualize and write each book; to our amazing editor, Aquinnah Bree; and to our talented illustrators, Melina Sugliano and Rodrigo Palacios. In creating this series, we have also created a lifelong bond.

- Ana Rita Gonzalez, President & CEO, Policy Wisdom LLC

We truly hope you enjoyed reading this edition in the Athena's
Adventures in Health Policy series!

We invite you to encourage the young people in your life
who are interested in public health to learn more about us
and our networks.

Please follow us on social media and join the conversation!



Scan the QR code to know
the others books of the series





Athena wants to know all about water. Where does it come from? How does it get to her house? Can she drink it from puddles? With the help of her parents, she learns about the potable water policies that keep us healthy.

Through Athena's Adventures in Health Policy, Policy Wisdom aims to inspire the next generation of public health professionals and show them the importance and impact of health policies. Learn more about our mission at policywisdom.com.

