

Global Issues

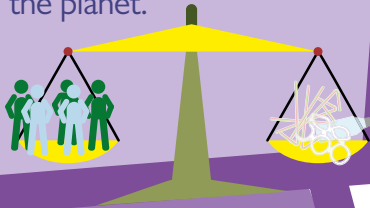
There are 7.4 billion people on our planet and if we all throw our rubbish everywhere, the world will be a big rubbish tip without any grass, trees and parks left anywhere.



Did You Know?

300 billion tonnes of plastic

are made every year, the same weight as all the human beings who are on the planet.

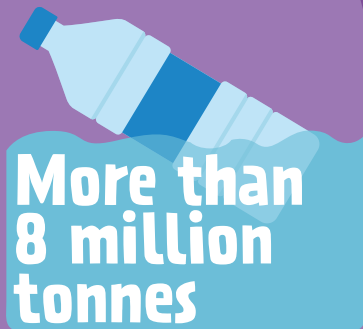


Some plastics take up to 500 years to break down, some much longer. In fact, plastic never disappears! It just becomes smaller.

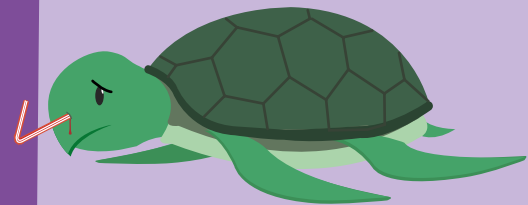
8.5 billion straws are thrown away every year in the UK.

Straws endanger the life of sea turtles and other sea animals. We don't really need them to drink, so don't use them.

Did you know that our oceans cover 70% of the Earth's surface and produce nearly 50% of Earth's oxygen? As we need to breathe, we need the oceans!

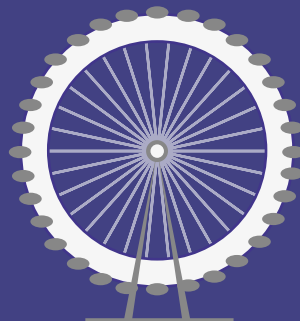


More than 8 million tonnes of plastic ends up in the oceans every year. This is the same weight as 2 million elephants.



10,000 turtles get trapped by fishing nets left behind by fishing boats. They last for 650 years, killing a lot of animals!

Since 1950 (not even 80 years ago) we have produced 8.4 billion tonnes of plastic, the same weight as 4 million London Eye wheels.



Top Tips

1. When you buy an ice-cream...

Ask for a cone, not a tub. And you can eat the cone!



3.

If you need a straw to drink your fruit juice, make sure it is not a plastic one!

Try a paper one, or bamboo, or metal. Or no straw at all, just drink from your cup!

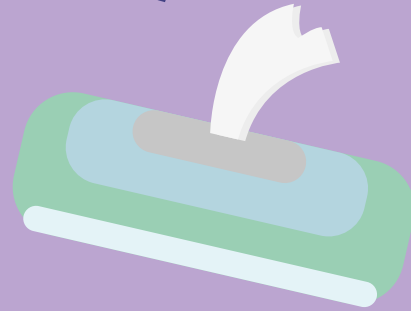


4.

Instead of filling your party goodie bags with toys, choose plastic-free options like chalk, pencils, homemade play dough or homemade cookies.



2. Do NOT use wet wipes to clean your face.



They are made out of plastic, end up in our sewage and cause huge fatbergs! Use a flannel and put it in the washing machine when it is dirty.

5.

At the beach...

Do not leave your litter behind you. Take it away and put it in a bin.

You could also pick up a few litter items that other people left behind. If every one did this, the beaches would be clean for us all to enjoy!



Activities

At Home

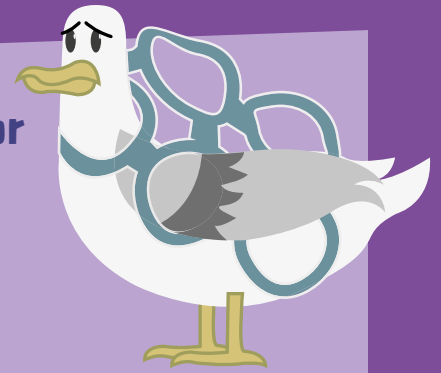
Find positive stories about how people have been tackling plastic waste, write a summary of the story and tell it to your friends and/or class.

Pick one plastic item that you would normally throw away:

1. Think about several ways it could be re-used instead of being thrown away.
2. Could that item have been made in other material that would not be as bad for the environment?

On a weekend, go for a walk in a park or at the seaside.

Look at the litter left around. Have a family litter-pick and think about the danger of the various items of litter that have been left.



At School

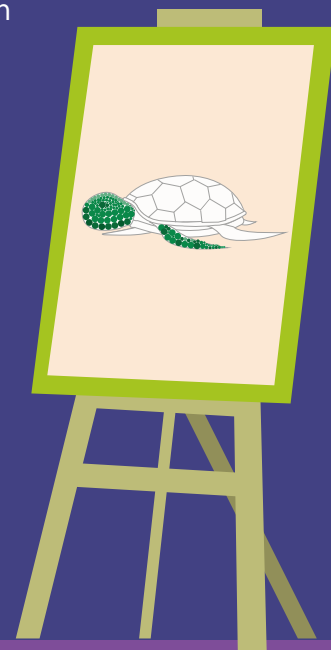
Create a presentation about ocean plastic and present it to your class or to an assembly.

Write a letter to your teacher telling him/ her what could be done to stop and prevent plastic pollution.

Can the class watch 'Plastic ocean' the film?

Organise an art exhibition on the theme 'plastic seas'.

Create a piece of art, painting, collage or 3D object that will communicate the state of our oceans drowning in rubbish and plastic. Ideally you will use some recycled material. Invite your teachers and parents to show them you care.



Word search

Can you find all the words littered throughout the grid?

Level 1

BEACH
BOTTLES
FISH
LITTER
OCEANS
PLASTIC
RIVERS
STRAWS
TURTLES
WHALES

Q	B	V	R	I	V	E	R	S	A	R
V	P	B	B	E	A	C	H	Q	H	V
F	M	O	A	O	H	H	G	H	U	A
W	S	T	P	P	I	L	S	C	O	E
S	P	T	W	L	B	I	X	I	C	S
T	F	L	H	A	F	T	W	R	E	Y
R	H	E	A	S	V	T	R	L	A	J
A	U	S	L	T	W	E	T	N	N	D
W	T	L	E	I	W	R	V	T	S	L
S	F	H	S	C	U	V	C	B	J	R
C	I	A	D	T	M	O	Q	X	O	N

Level 2

BOTTLES **SEABIRDS**
CLEANUP **STRAWS**
DEBRIS **TURTLES**
ENTANGLED **WHALES**
FISH
FISHNETS
LITTER
OCEANS
PLASTIC
POLLUTION
RIVERS

D	E	G	S	U	J	O	W	H	A	L	E	S	T	R
W	Z	R	E	E	B	D	E	B	R	I	S	S	S	I
Q	K	U	H	J	N	S	E	A	B	I	R	D	S	V
T	Z	S	E	V	B	T	U	J	I	U	N	Y	K	E
D	I	U	U	P	S	W	A	B	J	E	Q	B	K	R
F	C	L	E	A	N	U	P	N	F	P	A	S	E	S
I	A	E	F	N	A	Y	F	X	G	V	E	T	M	S
S	P	O	L	L	U	T	I	O	N	L	T	M	T	T
H	L	G	H	I	C	E	W	Z	T	I	E	W	M	R
N	A	O	H	P	D	A	L	R	L	R	C	D	N	A
E	S	P	C	F	S	X	U	U	E	V	T	X	C	W
T	T	B	T	E	Q	T	V	E	P	L	D	Y	Z	S
S	I	C	O	U	A	B	O	T	T	L	E	S	P	V
G	C	Z	E	F	Z	N	R	S	I	F	L	Q	T	M
N	Q	M	P	Z	F	M	S	H	S	W	J	G	D	O