

# Disclaimer/s

We hope you find the information on our website and resources useful.

## Animations


This resource has been designed with animations to make it as fun and engaging as possible. To view the content in the correct formatting, please view the PowerPoint in 'slide show mode'. This takes you from desktop to presentation mode. If you view the slides out of 'slide show mode', you may find that some of the text and images overlap each other and/or are difficult to read.

To enter slide show mode, go to the **slide show menu tab** and select either **from beginning** or **from current slide**.

You may wish to delete this slide before beginning the presentation.

# Ocean Plastic Pollution





My name is Manti and  
I'm a manta ray.

We live in the ocean,  
which means our  
home is underwater!

Hello!

My name is Blub  
and I'm an octopus.



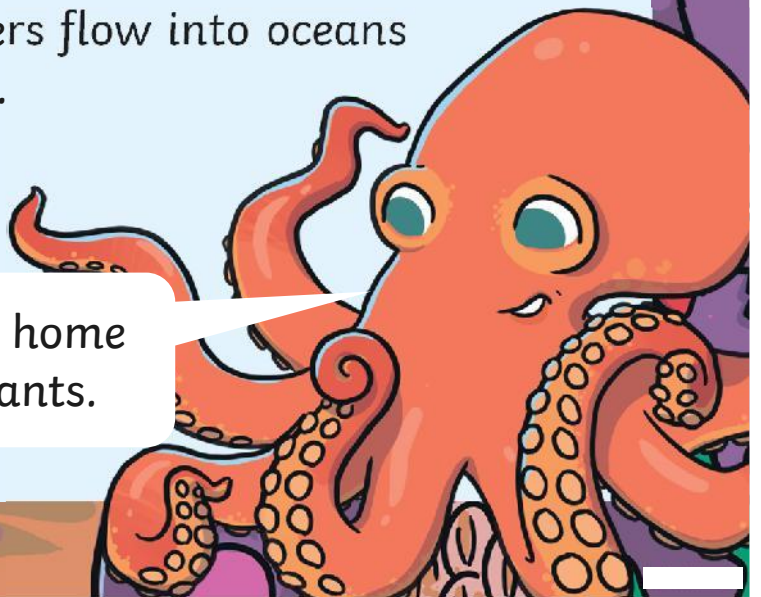


There's lots of water around the world. Nearly 70% of the Earth is covered in huge seas and oceans!



Rivers flow across the land. Most rivers flow into oceans and seas.

Rivers, seas and oceans are all home to millions of animals and plants.



# Plastic Pollution



One of the biggest problems that sea animals like us have to face is plastic pollution.

Plastic pollution is when plastic gets into the ocean and causes harm to the creatures and plants that live there.



# What Is Plastic?



Plastic is a man-made material. This means that it is something that humans created.

Plastic was invented over one hundred years ago, in 1907.

Plastic is used for lots of different things. It is cheap and can easily be moulded into lots of different shapes.



Plastic is used to make some things that make our lives much better and safer, such as medical equipment.



It is even used to make astronaut helmets!

# Single-Use Plastics



Plastic is used to make lots of things that don't have to be made from plastic, such as straws, bottles and carrier bags.

These are often called 'single-use' plastics because after we have used them once, we throw them away.

Can you think of anything you use that is made from plastic?



# What Does 'Biodegradable' Mean?



Lots of the rubbish that we throw away, such as food, paper and cork, can be broken down into tiny pieces by bacteria or animals. These tiny pieces can be a good source of food for living things.

# What Does 'Biodegradable' Mean?



Have you ever left a pumpkin outside after Halloween or seen fruit that has fallen from a tree?

You'll notice that it soon starts to disappear! That's because it's being eaten by animals and broken into tiny pieces by bacteria.



It is **biodegradable**.



# Is Plastic Biodegradable?

Plastic doesn't exist naturally, so there is no way for living things to use it as food.

If you see a plastic bottle outside, you'll notice that it stays exactly the same and doesn't get broken down or eaten by animals.

It is **not biodegradable**.

It will stay exactly like that for hundreds or even thousands of years!



So, what do you think happens to plastic that gets into the sea?



# Plastic Stays in the Ocean



Every year, **8 million tons** of plastic gets into the ocean. A humpback whale weighs one ton, so you can imagine how much plastic there is in 8 million tons!



# Plastic Stays in the Ocean



There is plastic in all of the blue parts of this world map!

Plastic is in every ocean across the world.

Once it gets into the ocean, plastic will stay there and build up. It can clog up the spaces where sea creatures live.

# How Does Plastic Get Into the Ocean?



Once it gets into the ocean, plastic will stay there and build up. It can clog up the spaces where sea creatures live.



This means that we have lots of plastic that we throw away. This plastic ends up in places on land, such as landfills. The plastic isn't always stored properly and it can end up in the sea.





Sometimes, piles of plastic are dumped straight into the sea by people.



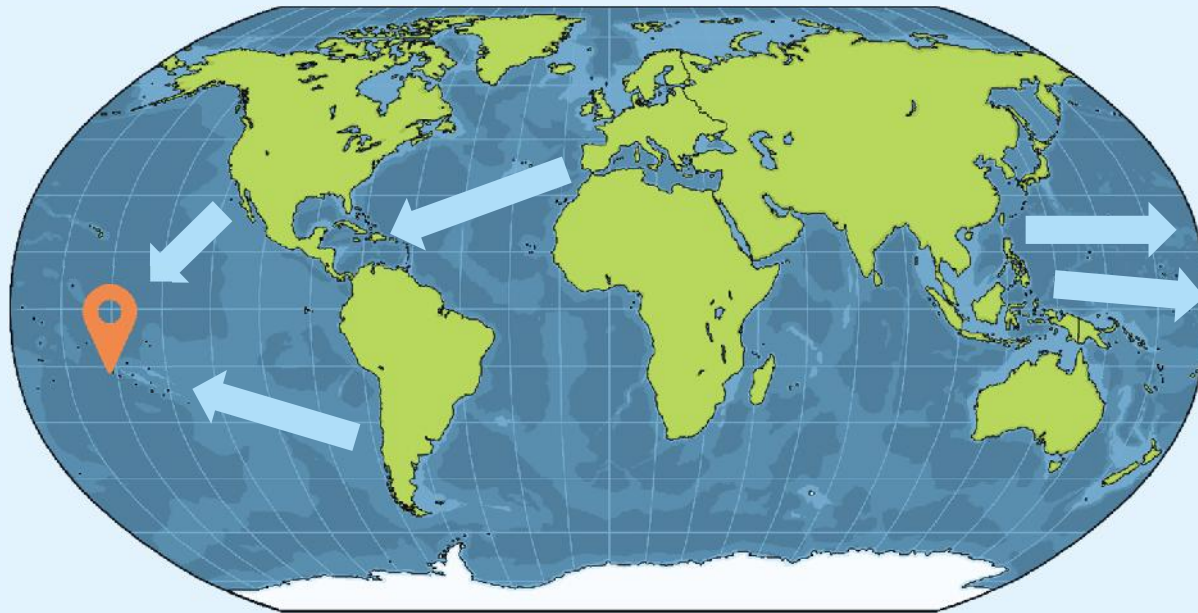
Rubbish from boats can also end up in the ocean. Fishing boats often leave their broken nets in the water, which are usually made from plastic.



Any plastic that falls into rivers can also be carried into the ocean. This means that a plastic bottle dropped hundreds of miles away could easily end up in the sea!

# Plastic Moves Around the Ocean

Oceans have fast-moving waters, called currents. These push and pull plastic rubbish all around the world.



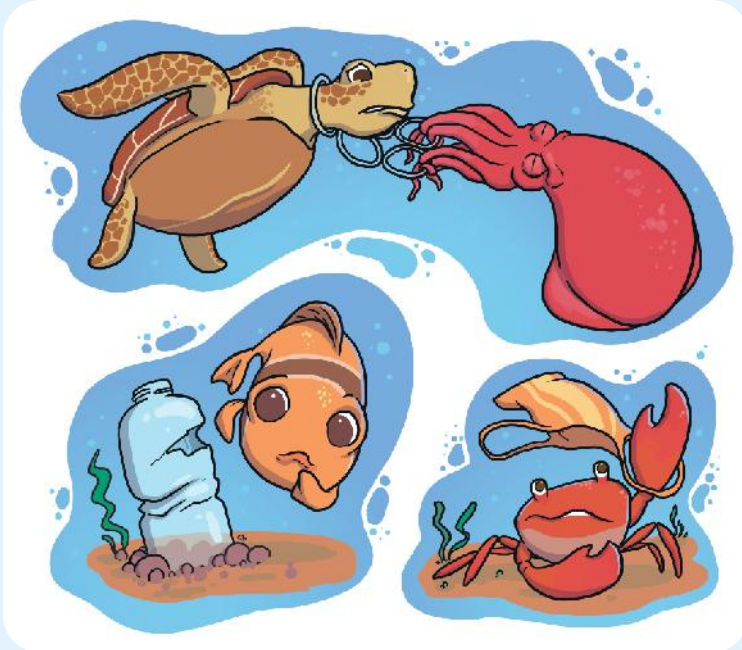
On Henderson Island in the Pitcairns, plastic has been found from places all over the world, including countries in Europe, China, Japan, the USA and South America.





Plastic has even been found in the bottom of the deepest ocean trenches and frozen in the ice of Antarctica!

# Why Is Plastic Pollution Bad for Animals?



When plastic gets into the ocean, it can hurt the animals that live there.

Animals might think that plastic is food or eat it by accident. This can make them very poorly.

If animals eat plastic, they might think their bellies are full. Then they don't have room for the healthy food they need to survive.



Animals can also get caught in fishing nets, plastic bottles and plastic rings. This can trap them or hurt them when they try to get free.





In our ocean home, we need lots of space to move around.

We need our homes to be clean and safe so that we don't get hurt.

We need to eat natural food that is good for us so that we don't get sick.

It's hard for us to do these things if our homes are covered in plastic!





We need to clean up  
the oceans!



Once plastic gets into the ocean, it's hard to get it out. Some people are working hard to find ways to remove plastic from the water.

But the best thing we can do is to stop plastic from getting into the sea in the first place.



# How Can People Help?



There's loads that we can do to help!

Grown-ups can reuse and recycle a lot of the plastic that they use.

Picking up plastic from the land stops it from getting into the sea

People in charge of countries can make laws to stop certain types of products from being made out of plastic.

A lot of the work needs to be done by grown-ups.

Shops can use paper bags, rather than plastic ones.

People in charge of countries can create better ways of storing and getting rid of plastic waste.

Businesses can make good choices, such as using paper straws instead of plastic ones.

Businesses can use paper and cardboard packaging, rather than plastic.

Can you think of any other ways grown-ups can help stop plastic pollution?

# How Can Children Help?

Children can also help in lots of ways!  
Try to never drop litter on the ground.



Put your litter in the proper bins and recycle any plastic that you can.

Use a reusable water bottle. Take it with you when you go out so you don't need to buy a single-use one.

Do you have a school council? You could talk to them and your teachers about ways that your school can help to stop plastic pollution.





Remind your grown-ups to take reusable bags when they go shopping so that they don't need to buy plastic ones at the shop.



When giving a gift to someone, see if you can find something without plastic packaging. You could even give them something homemade!



When you grow out of your clothes or shoes, ask if you can recycle them by giving them to someone else or taking them to a charity shop.

You could ask your grown-ups to take you litter-picking.

Sometimes, this can be organised by a school or club.

By picking up any litter that we find on the ground and putting it in the correct bin, we can help to stop it from getting into the sea.

**Remember:** Don't ever pick up litter without checking with a grown-up first. It could be dangerous or unhygienic. When you go litter-picking, you can use gloves or special tools to make sure you are handling the rubbish safely.







Can you think of anything else we can do to stop plastic pollution in the ocean?

What changes could you make?

Make sure you tell all your friends and family what you have learned.

**Thank you for your help!**

