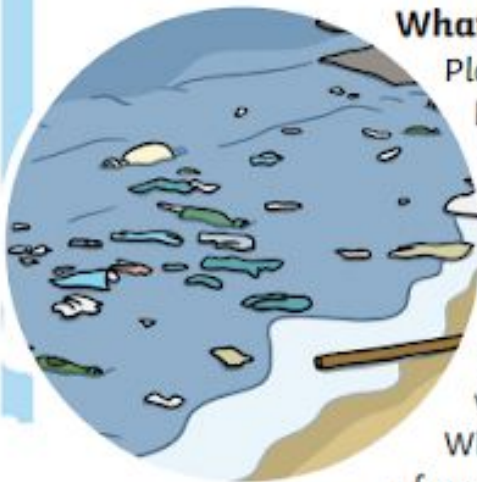


End Plastic Pollution

Our Planet

Our planet is very special and we must look after it. Everyone has an important role in making sure we keep it clean and safe. We also have a responsibility to look after everything that lives in it including people, plants and animals. Unfortunately, there are lots of things that we are doing that are damaging our planet and the things in it. One huge problem that we have is the amount of plastic that is polluting our planet. This plastic pollution is not only damaging to the earth but also to many creatures living on it.



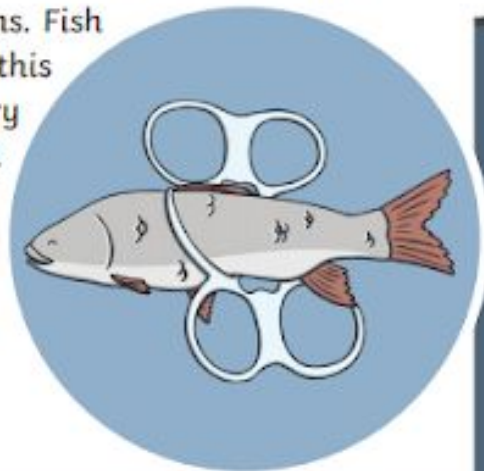
What Is Plastic Pollution?

Plastic pollution is when plastic that has been thrown away ends up in the environment. The environment means oceans, rivers, beaches and the countryside.

Plastic is very cheap to buy so humans throw a lot of it away. But plastic is very strong and made to last a long time.

When it is thrown away, it takes hundreds of years before it rots away and disappears.

Sadly, lots of plastic ends up in oceans. Fish and sea creatures can get stuck in this plastic or eat it by mistake. This is very harmful to the animals and can even kill them. Plastic bags are killing over 100,000 fish and birds every year.

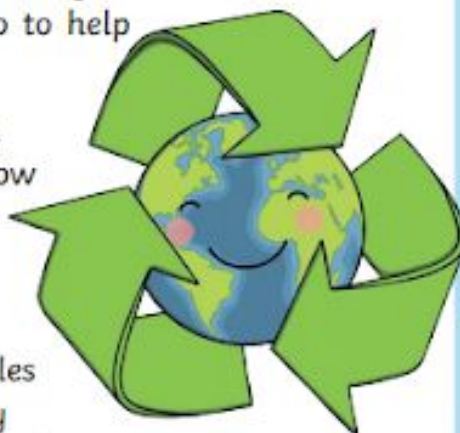


End Plastic Pollution

What You Can Do: Reduce, Reuse, Recycle

There are lots of things we can all do to help end plastic pollution.

- **Reduce:** Talk to your family, head teacher or school council about how your school and family can use less plastic. Say no to plastic straws.
- **Reuse:** Refill and reuse water bottles instead of buying new ones. Carry shopping in fabric bags, not plastic bags.
- **Recycle:** Look out for the special recycling sign on plastic. Remember to recycle when you can instead of throwing plastic away with the normal rubbish.



Powerful Plastic Facts

- The amount of plastic that humans use every year weighs the same as 30 million elephants!
- One plastic bottle takes about 450 years to break down.
- Scientists predict that by the year 2050, there will be more plastic in the world's oceans than fish!

Questions

1. Name one huge problem we have that is damaging our planet.

2. Draw lines to match these sentences.

environment

use less, say no

reduce

use again, instead of buying new

reuse

oceans, rivers, beaches and the countryside

3. Find and copy **one** adverb that shows the author of this text is unhappy about water pollution.

4. Fill in the missing word.

Plastic can be very _____ to fish and sea creatures.

5. What can you do instead of buying new water bottles?

6. Which fact from this text do you think is the worst? Give two reasons for the fact you have chosen.
