



Consider the environmental impacts of everyday actions

You will need

- Paper and pens for everyone
- [Waste Funnel image](#) for each group or displayed on a screen

What to do

Use this activity as part of Requirement 1 of the Scouts Environmental Conservation Activity Badge to prompt your troop to consider how day-to-day actions might contribute to climate change, and therefore ocean warming and acidification. This is a reflective exercise and aims to be thought provoking.

Part 1: Diary of a day

1. Ask everyone to write a paragraph describing what they've done in their day. You could provide prompts like 'when I got up, I', 'for my breakfast I ate', 'I wore', 'I travelled to school by', 'when I got home I.'
2. Ask a few people to share their paragraphs. Discuss how the activities link to carbon dioxide emissions. For example, growing and packaging food, using water, making clothes, heating our houses, travelling in cars, using electricity, making toys and games, making paper and pens – all these activities release carbon dioxide into the atmosphere, leading to ocean warming and acidification.
3. Ask everyone, individually or in pairs, to review the descriptions of their days and circle the activities that link to climate change. Add any activities that were forgotten to get a full picture of the day.

Part 2: Responsible consumption

1. The activities listed in everyone's descriptions are essential: we can't stop getting up, eating or going to school. As a group, think of ways that everyone could continue to do these activities each day while generating less carbon dioxide e.g. walk to school, take a shorter shower, turn off lights in empty rooms, turn down the heating thermostat. Tease out that the aim is to be responsible and consume less.
2. Display the [waste funnel](#) on a screen or give copies to small groups. Ask everyone to discuss the steps that can be taken during a typical day to reduce waste. Explain that the funnel is designed to show importance and impact, with the actions that make the most difference placed at the top.

Reflection

The purpose of this activity is to consider the impacts of everyday actions. It can be used to identify environmental issues that the troop tackles, but it's important that no one is left with feelings of eco-guilt or anxiety. Stress that no one is perfect – trying to do the best we can and making small changes will make a difference. If we Rethink, Refuse and Reduce, we can help reduce carbon emissions from manufacturing and supply processes, reducing the impact on the climate and ocean.

Waste Funnel

Reducing our waste means less landfill/ incineration and less litter



MARINE
CONSERVATION
SOCIETY



What we flush down the loo can end up in the sea and harm animals. How does it get there and how can we stop it?

You will need

For the wet wipes experiment (one set for each group):

- 2 x large bottles with lids, three-quarters full of water
- 1 piece of toilet paper
- 1 wet wipe

For the discussion:

- [How does our waste reach the sea?](#)
- [Unflushables Fact File](#)
- [Unflushables image reel](#)

What to do

Use this activity as part of Requirement 1 of Scouts Environmental Conservation Activity Badge to introduce your troop to the problem of wet wipes, one of the most common items found on UK beaches on beach cleans.

When items like wet wipes are flushed down the loo, they can create blockages in sewer pipes. In a blockage, to stop sewage 'backing up' and flooding people's homes, emergency valves are triggered and sewage is released into local rivers and the sea. Some wet wipes contain plastic fibres and pose a severe threat to wildlife.

Part 1: Wet wipe experiment

1. Divide everyone into small groups.
2. Add a piece of toilet paper to one of the bottles of water and screw the lid on tightly. Ask one person in the group to shake the bottle for 30 seconds, then pass it round until everyone has shaken it for 30 seconds.
3. Now do the same thing again with the wipe.
4. Everyone should observe and discuss the differences between the bottles.
5. Discuss what might happen if the wipe and paper were in the sea. Thousands of wipes are found on our beaches and in the sea each year. What might happen to wildlife if they eat a wet wipe?



Part 2: Our route to the ocean

In the UK we're never more than 70 miles from the sea. Find the route wipes might take to the ocean.

1. Using Google Earth or a map, everyone should find their location.
2. Then find the nearest river.
3. If using a map, follow the river to its mouth (the estuary) and then locate the entrance to the sea.
4. If using Google Earth, type the name of the nearest river into the search bar. Click 'more information' to find the mouth of the river and where it reaches the ocean. Type this into the search bar to see the location on the map.

Part 3: How do wipes reach the sea?

As a group, look at the diagram [How does waste reach the sea?](#) and talk about the different ways that items flushed down the loo can reach the sea:

- A blockage in the sewer (for example from a fatberg) causes waste to 'back up' and triggers an emergency release of sewage into nearby rivers to prevent it flooding people's homes
- Sewage pipes are not correctly connected and sewage goes directly from homes into rivers.
- The filters at sewage treatment works cannot filter out all the waste.

The [image reel](#) provides more information and compelling images of wet wipes and fatbergs.

Reflection

This activity highlights the consequences of our actions – one person's decision to flush a wet wipe down the loo can result in multiple consequences for sewage systems, the cleanliness of the ocean and the health of marine life.

Can you encourage people to put only the three Ps (pee, poo, paper) down the loo? How could you help people understand the consequences of flushing more than the three Ps? The [Unflushables Fact File](#) provides facts and stats that might be helpful in changing people's behaviour.

Unflushables Fact File



What are Unflushables?



Baby wipes



Cotton buds



Contact lenses



Cleaning wipes



Sanitary towels



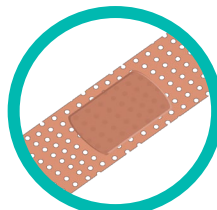
Tampons and applicators



Medicine



Nappies



Plasters



Cigarette stubs



What's the problem?

Unflushable items build up into fatbergs and block sewers

When flushed down the loo, items like wet wipes, nappies, tampons and sanitary towels combine with fat, oil and grease to create massive, gunky fatbergs. These can grow so large that they block whole sewer pipes, causing sewage to 'back up' in toilets and flood people's homes.

They can be released into rivers when drains overflow

In heavy rainstorms, our drainage systems become overwhelmed by the large volumes of water. To prevent houses and towns flooding, overflow pipes are opened so that water can leave the system quickly. Unfortunately, these overflow pipes put untreated water straight into rivers and any unflushables in the pipes will be discharged into the river.

They can then harm wildlife

Unflushables are made of plastic and break down into thousands of tiny plastic fibres in the water. Marine life can ingest these fibres along with toxic chemicals and bacteria.

Unflushables Fact File



9 things to know about unflushables

1. 5.9% of all beach litter in the UK is items that were flushed down the loo when they should have gone in the bin.
2. Wet wipes were the third most-common item found on UK beaches in 2020.
3. Period products were the fifth most-common item found on European beaches in 2018.
4. Wipes labelled as flushable don't always meet the 'Fine to flush' standard and can cause blockages.
5. If you piled up skips full of all the unflushables found in our sewers, it would reach the height of Everest.
6. Unflushables are made of plastic and never go away. They remain in the ocean, collecting toxic chemicals and bacteria. This is a severe threat to marine animals that eat them.
7. Menstrual products and their packaging generate 200,000 tonnes of waste per year in the UK.
8. In sewers, wet wipes can combine with fat, grease and oil to form giant fatbergs. But only 5% is actual fat – 93% is wet wipes!
9. Around 2 million people in the UK wear daily disposable contact lenses, which are a form of plastic. Each year, as many as 750 million contact lenses are flushed down the loo or end up in landfill. Many get washed down the plughole as they dry out on the side of a sink. Many opticians run recycling collection schemes, but take-up is still low.

“By removing plastic from wet wipes we can move further away from our reliance on single-use plastics. Wet wipes should be considered similarly to items like cotton bud sticks and staws which are, in the most part, avoidable.”

Dr Laura Foster, Head of Clean Seas

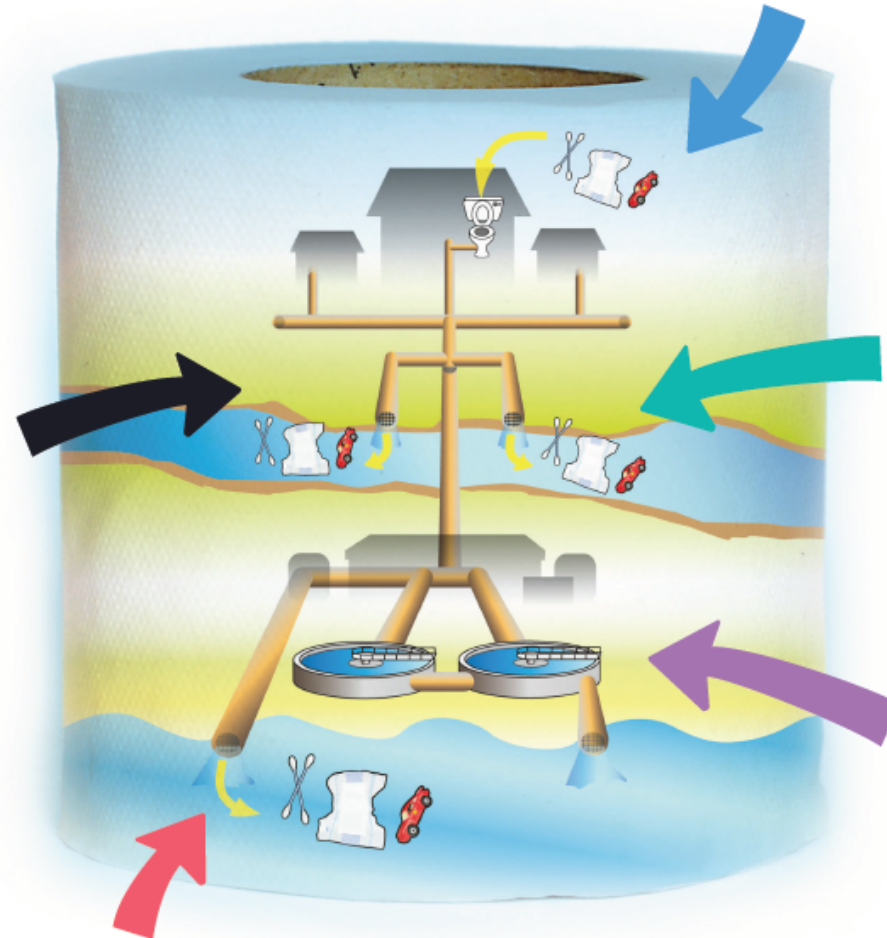
Unflushables Image Reel



How does our waste reach the sea?

Sewerage System

Our homes, schools and other buildings are connected to our sewerage system. This is a network of pipes designed to take human waste after it has been flushed down the toilet, to the sewerage treatment works where it is processed, made safe for humans and animals and then returned to sea. Our sewerage system also collects rainwater from drains and directs this to the sea, to prevent our towns from flooding.



Overflows

These are the sewerage networks emergency release valves. During heavy rain, or if the pipes become blocked with items that should not be flushed down the toilet, there is not enough room in the pipes and they have to release into local streams and rivers. This is so that the waste does not back up and flood people's homes!

Overflows

There are grills over the end of outflow pipes but smaller items, like cotton buds and bits of plastic that have been flushed down the toilet still get through, and can end up in the ocean and on our beaches.

Misconnections

This is when household drains are plumbed into the wrong external drain. Sewage water that should be transported to wastewater treatment plants is instead drained directly into rivers.

Sewerage Treatment Works

This is where our waste water and sewage is treated to a series of processes to make sure that it is safe to be released into the sea and back into the water cycle. Water from here is no longer harmful to us.

Fatbergs

In sewers, wet wipes can combine with fat, grease and oil to form giant fatbergs. However, only 5% is actual fat – 93% is wet wipes! (1)

One of the biggest fatbergs found in London was longer than Tower Bridge and as heavy as 11 double-decker buses. (2)

Did you know that fatbergs cost the UK a staggering £90 million per year to remove? (3)



Whitechapel fatberg sample at the Museum of London.
Image: Seeing Sanitation via Flickr

The solution

Don't put oil down the sink, as this helps create fatbergs. Wait for pans to cool, wipe the oil off with a tissue, and dispose of in the bin instead.

It can be confusing to know which wet wipes are fine to flush. If you're unsure, then pop it in the bin instead and only flush the 3 Ps (pee, poo, and paper) down the toilet.

1. BBC 2017
2. Grease Guardian 2017
3. The Rivers Trust 2019



Image: Thames Water



Image: Thames Water

Fatbergs

At last year's Great British Beach Clean, an average of 18 wet wipes were found for every 100 metres of coastline cleaned and surveyed, making them the third most common litter item on UK beaches in 2020. (1)

From sewers to sea

Wet wipes can reach the ocean from sewer systems in several ways:

- Fatbergs block sewage drains and can cause sewage to overflow into our streams, rivers and ocean
- Some wet wipes can get through sewage treatment works to end up on our beaches
- Drains can overflow after heavy rain when the system cannot cope with the volume of water



Image: MCS/Kate Wilson

Misconnections

Between 15,000 and 500,000 homes in the UK are thought to have drain misconnections. (1)

This is when household drains are plumbed into the wrong external drain. Sewage water that should be transported to wastewater treatment plants is instead drained directly into rivers.

1. The Rivers Trust 2019



Image: Natasha Ewins



Image: Natasha Ewins

Plastic pollution

At last year's Great British Beach Clean, an average of 18 wet wipes were found for every 100 metres of coastline cleaned and surveyed, making them the third most common litter item on UK beaches in 2020. (1)

1. Marine Conservation Society 2020



Image: Natasha Ewins



Image: Natasha Ewins

Plastic pollution

Some wet wipes contain plastic fibres and pose a severe threat to marine wildlife. These plastic items, along with the toxic chemicals and bacteria that attach to them on their journey down the drain, might be accidentally ingested. When wet wipes eventually start to break up they become microplastics, making them more easily ingested by marine animals.

Raising Awareness



Image: Marine Conservation Society

[**Click here to watch the video
Wet Wipes Turn Nasty!**](#)

Wallace

We created Wallace the wet wipe monster in 2017 to help raise awareness of wet wipes as a source of pollution.

Wallace toured with us around the UK and helped to collect over 10,000 signatures for a petition asking the industry for change.

All own brand flushable wet wipes that meet the 'Fine to Flush' specification or will do by June 2021*

 ✓	 Don't Sell	 ✓	 ✓	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Already Done ✓ In Progress ✗ No
 ✗	 ✗	 ✗	 ✓	
 ✓	 Don't Sell	 ✗	 ✗	* Some existing old stock may still be found in store



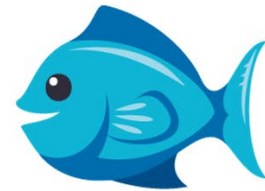
Fine to Flush logo via Water UK

Fine to Flush

We've worked with industries to remove plastics from wet wipes labelled 'flushable', and to ensure clear 'do not flush' labelling on all wet wipes unless they pass the Fine to Flush standard.

Bincentives

Good stuff happens when you bin your litter



Bincentives

We've worked with students across the UK to inspire schools to take action on plastic pollution. Bincentives was an initiative designed by students of Hampton High School, London. It focuses on a series of posters displaying emoji messages, aiming to engage students by rewarding positive behaviour with school-determined rewards.



The ocean is full of 'invisible' pollution that harms marine life

You will need

For the microfibre experiment (one set for each group):

- A large bottle with a lid, three-quarters full of water
- Piece of brightly coloured synthetic material (fleece, nylon, polyester). The material should be new, or nearly new, as new fabric releases the most fibres
- Sieve and container to catch water
- Filter paper or a piece of thick kitchen roll
- Magnifying glass

For the food chain fibres activity:

- [Microfibre food chain images](#), cut out
- Sellotape or Blu Tack
- 3 jars or small containers
- 1 bucket or large container
- [Microfibres Fact File](#)

What to do

Use this activity as part of Requirement 1 of Scouts Environmental Conservation Activity Badge to introduce your troop to microfibres, one of the biggest causes of water pollution.

Every time clothes are washed, they release thousands of microfibres. Most washing machines don't have filters to trap them and the filters at wastewater treatment plants aren't fine enough to filter them, and they're washed into rivers and seas. Every day, the equivalent of two rubbish trucks of microfibres are released into European waters where they can be consumed by marine animals.

Part 1: Microfibre experiment

1. Divide everyone into small groups.
2. Put a piece of fabric into a bottle three-quarters full of water. Screw the lid on tightly. Take it in turns to shake the bottle for 30 seconds, shaking the bottle for a total of 2 minutes.
3. Line the sieve with the filter paper or kitchen roll and carefully pour the water through the filter/paper into the container below.
4. Take it in turns to look at the paper through the magnifying glass. The tiny fibres are 'microfibres'.

Microfibres are released every time clothes are washed. Most washing machines don't have filters, which means these fibres are released into wastewater. They can't be removed at sewage works, which means they are released into rivers and the ocean.



Part 2: Fibres in the food chain

Marine animals can eat microfibres floating in the water. Carry out the following activity to see how quickly microfibres build up in the food chain:

1. Print and cut out the images of plankton, worms and a crab on the microfibre [food chain images](#) sheet.
2. Stick the picture of a crab on a bucket or large box. Stick the 3 pictures of worms on jars or similar containers.
3. Distribute the plankton pictures, worm jars and crab container. Note the microfibre on the worms.
4. Ask people with the worm jars to move around and collect plankton.
5. Then ask the person with the crab container to collect the worms.
6. Gather around the crab container and look at what the crab has 'eaten'. How many microfibres are in the crab? Look at how quickly one microfibre in plankton turns into 30 inside the crab. In reality there are thousands of microfibres building up inside marine animals. In the worst cases, they can fill marine animals' stomachs and affect how they grow.

Reflection

What can we do to reduce the amount of microfibres released into the environment? How do each of us contribute to the microfibre pollution problem?

New clothes release the most microfibres when washed and synthetic fabrics release plastic fabrics that do not degrade. Could you buy fewer new clothes, wash clothes less often, buy natural fabrics?

The [Microfibres Fact File](#) gives some simple ideas for actions your troop could take for Requirements 2 and 3 of the activity badge.

Microfibres Fact File



Plastic pollution

Our clothes are made of millions of tiny microfibres. With every wash, these fibres shed from our clothes.

- 60% of the material used in making clothes worldwide is a form of plastic, such as polyester, nylon and acrylic. This means microfibres from these fabrics are tiny pieces of plastic
- A single wash can release over 700,000 microfibres. Every week in the UK about 9.4 trillion fibres are released from washing clothes
- The fibres are too small to be filtered at sewerage plants and many are released into rivers and ultimately our ocean
- Once in the ocean, animals can ingest microfibres and they build up in the food chain over time. Microplastics have been found in many types of seafood we eat, including mussels, fish and shrimp
- New clothes release the highest levels of fibres when first washed

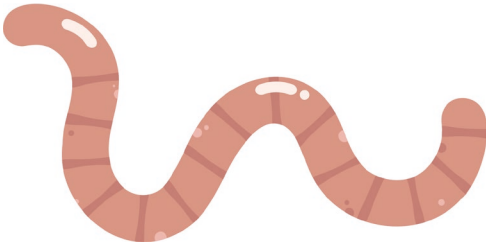


Climate change and the ocean

Climate change is impacting our ocean. Rising ocean temperatures are affecting many plant and animal species, and rising carbon dioxide levels are causing ocean acidification, which is killing coral and other species. Additionally, rising air temperatures are causing extreme weather events and melting ice in polar regions, impacting fragile coastal communities and habitats.

- The fashion industry accounts for 10% of global carbon emissions – more than all flights and shipping activity combined
- In the UK, an estimated 350,000 tonnes of clothes end up in landfill every year. That's over 15,000 rubbish trucks!
- It's estimated that we bought 60% more clothes in 2021 than in 2000. According to the World Bank, 40% of clothing purchased is never worn
- Returning items bought online can double the transport emissions. It can be cheaper for some online retailers and brands to dump or burn unwanted returns rather than repackaging and reselling
- Less than 1% of material in unwanted clothing is recycled into new clothing

Microfibre food chain images







How much single-use plastic do you consume?

You will need

- The following items (or pictures of them): paper, cardboard, cling film, picture of a cigarette butt, plastic carrier bag, glitter, glossy wrapping paper, tin can, aluminium can, crisp packet, plastic drink bottle, glass bottle, plastic milk carton, tetrapack carton, piece of food, e.g. fruit, something wooden, something woollen, disposable face mask
- [Plastic and Not plastic signs](#) and [Timeline cards](#)
- [Survey form](#) and [letter](#) for each person (emailed or printed)
- [Marine Litter Image Reel](#)

What to do

Use this activity as part of Requirement 1 of the Scouts Environmental Conservation Activity Badge to explore recycling and conservation issues.

Part 1: Can you spot plastic in everyday items?

1. Not all plastic is obvious, so start by making sure everyone knows what packaging contains plastic. Put all the items (or images) listed in a pile.
2. The leader of the activity should place the [Plastic sign](#) to one side of the pile, and the [Not plastic sign](#) to the other. One at a time, ask people to select an item and place it in the 'plastic' or 'not plastic' pile. Once all the items have been sorted, the leader of the activity should reveal the [answers](#).
3. Were there any surprises? Look at the items in the 'plastic' pile. Which can be reused? Which are 'single-use' and designed to be used only once?

Part 2: How long does litter last?

1. The leader of the activity should ask six people to make a timeline holding the [timeline cards](#).
2. The leader should pick out the food, cardboard, crisp packet, plastic carrier bag, drinks can, and plastic drinks bottle. The leader should then give each item to a different person and ask them to place the item next to the time they think it will take to break down. Once all the items have been placed in a pile, the leader of the activity should confirm the correct [answers](#).
3. The leader should ask those holding plastic items to step forward. There's a twist – the time given is the time it takes for the item to break down, but plastic lasts forever. It breaks up into smaller and smaller pieces but never leaves the planet. Talk about single-use plastic items. How do they feel about the amount of time they are used versus the time they will be on the planet?



Why is single-use plastic a problem?

80% of the litter in the ocean is plastic. Plastic is incredibly useful – flexible, lightweight, durable and hygienic – but it lasts forever. It does not biodegrade but breaks down into smaller and smaller pieces. Too much plastic has short-term uses but long-term impacts on the planet.

How does plastic get to the ocean from the land?

- Litter – When people drop litter it can be washed or blown into drains and rivers, and from there, travel to the sea.
- Left on beaches – Rubbish that is left on a beach can be washed directly into the sea and items put into an overflowing bin can be blown into the sea.
- Blown from refuse trucks or off landfill sites – Plastic put in the bin ends up in landfill. Because it's light it can be blown into drains and rivers and into the sea.

What about recycling?

The government's statistics on waste in 2020 showed that only 47% of household plastic packaging was recycled. Not everyone recycles (only about half of UK households recycle), not all plastics can be recycled, and even plastic put into recycling bins may not be recycled due to problems in the recycling process.

Solutions

No matter where you live, the plastic you throw away could end up in the ocean. Reducing our consumption is the only way to prevent more plastic reaching the sea..

Part 3: How much single-use plastic is used at home?

1. Give everyone a [survey form](#) and ask them to record all the single-use plastic items thrown away over 5 days (in the bin or recycling). The simplest way to do this would be to record the item before it is thrown away. A [letter for parents](#) is included to help them support the activity.
2. The following week, review everyone's forms and collate the information.
3. As a group, identify the most common types of single-use plastic packaging. Why is plastic used for this packaging? Are there simple alternatives that people could be encouraged to use instead of plastic?
4. Use this information as the basis for the project for Requirements 2 and 3.

Reflection

Most of the litter in the ocean is plastic. It is polluting our seas and harming marine life. The [image reel](#) shows the impact of this pollution on wildlife.

Plastic is a useful material and sometimes its use is unavoidable (e.g. in medical settings) but a lot of single-use plastic in the home could be substituted. Can your troop find ways to remove single-use plastic from their lives?



> Plastic or not

Plastic

- Clingfilm
- Cigarette butt
- Plastic carrier bag
- Glitter
- Glossy wrapping paper
- Crisp packet
- Plastic drinks bottle
- Plastic milk carton
- TetraPak carton
- Disposable face mask
- Reusable plastic objects
e.g. lunch box, toy

Not plastic

- Paper
- Cardboard
- Glass bottle
- Tin can
- Aluminium can
- Piece of food e.g. fruit
- Item made of wood
- Item made of wool

> Single-use plastic

- Clingfilm
- Cigarette butt
- Plastic carrier bag
- Glitter
- Glossy wrapping paper
- Crisp packet
- Plastic drinks bottle
- Plastic milk carton
- TetraPak carton
- Disposable face mask

> Break down times of litter

- Food waste – a few months
- Cardboard – 2 to 5 years
- Crisp packet – 75 years
- Plastic carrier bag – 250 years
- Aluminium can – 450 years
- Plastic drinks bottle – 800 years

Times for plastic are estimates for how long it takes to break down. It hasn't been around long enough to be certain, and plastic never truly disappears.

Plastic

**Not
plastic**

Months

2-5

years

75

years

250
years

450
years

800
years

Home survey recording form

Name: _____

Use this form to record how many of each type of single-use plastic item you throw away or recycle each day.

<i>Item</i>	<i>Day 1</i>	<i>Day 2</i>	<i>Day 3</i>	<i>Day 4</i>	<i>Day 5</i>
Plastic bottle					
Plastic pot					
Plastic tray/punnet					
TetraPak carton					
Crisp/snack packets					
Plastic bags (all sizes)					
Bubble wrap					
Plastic film/lids					
Blister packs					
Plastic pouches/sachets					
Frozen food bags					
Cheese wrap					
Plastic gloves or mask					
Foam or polystyrene					
Plastic tubes, sprays					
Other:					

Dear parents/guardians,

As part of working towards our Environmental Conservation Activity Badge we are learning about recycling.

I am writing to ask for your help. We are sending your child home with a survey form to be completed over the next 5 days. Each day, we would like you to record all the single-use plastic packaging that you put in the bin or recycling. To minimise mess, it will be easiest to record the item on the form before you throw it away or recycle it. Plastic is not always obvious, so to help you, a list of common single-use plastic packaging is included on the form.

Once all the data is collected we will analyse it. Then, over the coming weeks, we will take action to tackle the plastic pollution problem. We have lots of exciting things planned, which we will be able to tell you about soon.

If you have any questions, please feel free to ask.

Thanks again for your help.

Yours faithfully,

Marine Litter Image Reel



Image: David Pereiras via Shutterstock



Image: Natasha Ewins

Litter reaches the ocean in a number of ways: it's washed in from our rivers, is left on our beaches, or is cast overboard from boats.

Marine Life vs Marine Litter

How does litter harm wildlife?

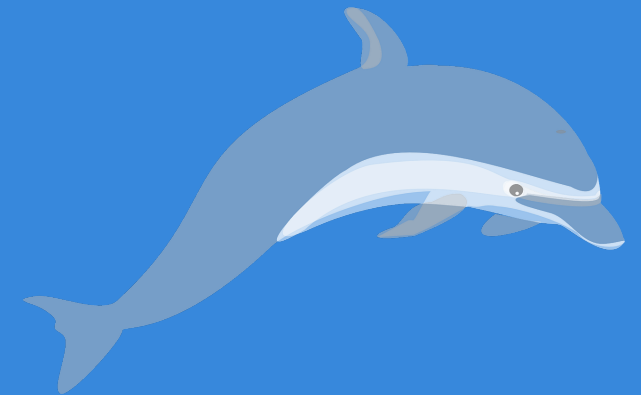
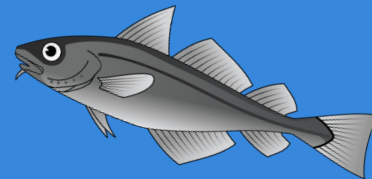
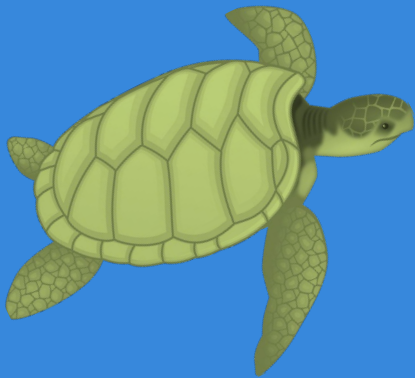
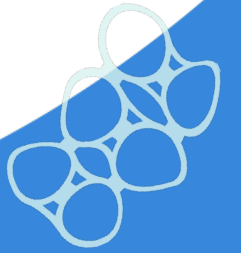




Image: A Different Perspective via Pixabay



Image: Tim Mossholder via Unsplash

Marine life

Litter items can cause harm to all sorts of marine life, from tiny plankton to whales. Ingestion of litter, particularly plastic, is very problematic for marine life who are unable to digest it.



Image: Nataliya Vaitkevich via Pexels



Image: Matt Barnes

Marine life

Animals can become entangled in litter, causing injury, reduced mobility and even death.



Image: Natasha Ewins



Image: Natasha Ewins

Microplastic pollution

Microplastics are a serious environmental issue. They are plastics that have broken up into pieces smaller than 5mm, as well as pieces that enter the environment this size like microfibres or plastic nurdles, which are the small plastic pellets used in the production of plastic products.

Sources

How does litter travel to the ocean?

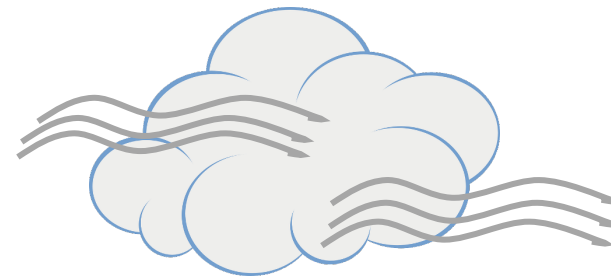
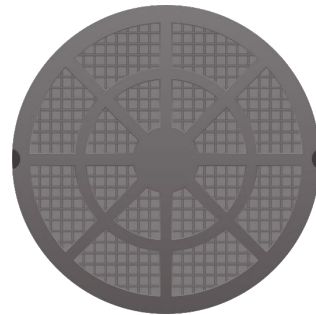
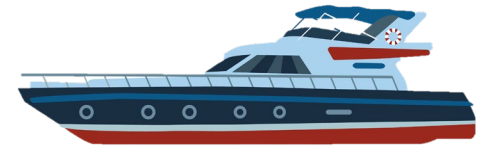




Image: MCS/Kate Wilson



Image: Jasmin Sessler via Unsplash

Marine litter sources

Inland sources of litter can include intentional and accidental littering, items flushed down toilets, sinks and drains, windblown litter from bins and landfill, and litter carried by rainwater into drains rivers and eventually the sea.



Marine litter sources

Litter is also a problem at sea, with sources like fishing, sailing, speed boats, commercial ships and container spills causing litter pollution.



Image: Brian Yurasits via Unsplash



Image: Andy Pearson

Litter timeline

Litter in the ocean takes longer to degrade than litter on land, but will eventually start to break up due to wave action, currents, saltwater and sunlight.



Image: Natasha Ewins



Image: Flockine via Pixabay

Litter timeline

Degradation time varies greatly from 1–450 years depending on the properties of the litter.



Image: Natasha Ewins



Image: Natasha Ewins

Litter surveys

Litter surveys are not only important for clearing rubbish, but also for gathering data on the types of litter polluting our environment.



Image: Natasha Ewins



Image: Brian Yurasits via Unsplash

Litter surveys

We all need to do our bit to reduce litter in the environment. By rethinking how we shop and what we use in our daily lives, we can all make a difference.



Image: Marta Ortigosa via Pexels



Image: Natasha Ewins

Litter surveys

Refusing unnecessary plastic and other materials, reducing the amount of products we consume, and repairing rather than replacing are all important actions we can take.