End Plastic Pollution

Our Planet

We only have one planet and so we need to take care of it. This means being responsible for looking after the earth, along with the plants, animals, birds, sea creatures and everything in it. We also need to make sure we don't damage it in anyway. Unfortunately, the earth and its living things have been damaged in many ways. One major damage has been caused through plastic pollution. This has had a huge impact on the earth and many animals but luckily, there are things we can do to help.

What Is Plastic Pollution?

The biggest problem with unwanted plastic is the damage it causes to the world.

visit twinkl.com

1. Humans buy and use a lot of plastic because it is cheap and easy to make.

2. They then throw this away.

3. Plastic is strong because it was made to last. So when it is thrown away, it takes hundreds of years to rot away.

4. Lots of the plastic ends up in our streams, rivers and the ocean.

The amount of plastic on the planet is increasing more and more rapidly, meaning it is threatening our planet through:

- injuring sea life;
- littering beaches and landscapes;
- clogging rubbish dumps;
- making humans (and other animals) ill.

Did You Know...?

- There are 6.3 billion tonnes of plastic waste on earth.
- Plastic bags are killing over 100,000 marine animals and birds every year.

What Can You Do to 'End Plastic Pollution'?

The Three Rs: First Reduce, Then Reuse, Then Recycle

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

- **Reduce:** Avoid single-use plastics, such as straws and takeaway cups. Talk to your family, head teacher or school council about how your school and family can reduce their plastic use.
- **Reuse:** Instead of buying new ones, refill and reuse water bottles and lunch bags. Use fabric bags for carrying shopping, rather than plastic bags.
- **Recycle:** Always recycle plastic when you can instead of throwing it away with the normal rubbish.

visit twinkl.com

Questions

1. Which of the following should we help to care for? Tick two.
   - ◯ animals
   - ◯ computers
   - ◯ each other
   - ◯ nothing – it's someone else's responsibility
2. Why do humans buy lots of plastic? Tick two.
   - ◯ It can be very colourful.
   - ◯ It's cheap.
   - ◯ It's easy to make.
   - ◯ It is good for your health.
3. How many billion tonnes of plastic waste are there on earth? Tick one.
   - ◯ 1970
   - ◯ 6.3
   - ◯ 100,000
   - ◯ 190
4. Which of these is **not** a way you can help? Tick one.
   - ◯ reduce
   - ◯ remake
   - ◯ reuse
   - ◯ recycle
5. Give two examples of single-use plastics.

   1. _____
   2. _____
6. What do you think you could do to help end plastic pollution?

   _____

   _____

   _____

visit twinkl.com

Answers

1. Which of the following should we help to care for? Tick two.
   - ✓ **animals**
   - ○ computers
   - ✓ **each other**
   - ○ nothing – it's someone else's responsibility

2. Why do humans buy lots of plastic? Tick two.
   - ○ It can be very colourful.
   - ✓ **It's cheap.**
   - ✓ **It's easy to make.**
   - ○ It is good for your health.

3. How many billion tonnes of plastic waste are there on earth? Tick one.
   - ○ 1970
   - ✓ **6.3**
   - ○ 100,000
   - ○ 190

4. Which of these is **not** a way you can help? Tick one.
   - ○ reduce
   - ✓ **remake**
   - ○ reuse
   - ○ recycle

5. Give two examples of single-use plastics.
   Accept the following answers: straws, takeaway cups

6. What do you think you could do to help end plastic pollution?
   Pupils' own responses, such as: I could talk to the school council to suggest that school stops buying plastic toys for the playground and buys wooden toys or recycled toys instead.