#### **Our Planet**

Our planet is very special and we must look after it along with the animals and plants that live on earth. However, one big problem that is causing damage to our earth and many animals that live here is plastic pollution. This is a very serious issue that everyone can help stop.







# Questions

- 1. Name two things that, along with our planet, we should we look after.
- 2. What is plastic pollution causing damage to: Tick two.
  - ⊖ people
  - the earth
  - animals
  - plants
- 3. What is **bad** about plastic pollution? Tick one.
  - Trees get hurt and die.
  - People get hurt and die.
  - $\bigcirc$  Animals get hurt and die.
- 4. Where does plastic end up? Tick one.
  - in towns and cities
  - $\bigcirc$  in the bin
  - in oceans and rivers
- 5. What should we **not** use? Tick two.
  - plastic straws
  - glass bottles
  - plastic bags





## Answers

- Name two things that, along with our planet, we should we look after. plants and animals
- 2. What is plastic pollution causing damage to: Tick two
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- 4. Where does plastic end up? Tick one.
  - in towns and cities
  - $\bigcirc$  in the bin
  - ${\boldsymbol{\varnothing}}$  in oceans and rivers
- 5. What should we **not** use? Tick two.

### 𝔄 plastic straws

- glass bottles
- ${\it \oslash}$  plastic bags





### 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. However, one huge problem that we have is plastic pollution which is damaging our planet and many animals living on it.

### What Is Plastic Pollution?

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

Many things we use every day are made of plastic. Plastic is very cheap and strong so when

it is thrown away it lasts a long time and is hard to get rid of.

Lots of plastic ends up in oceans where it traps and harms fish and other sea animals.

## What You Can Do

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

- Reuse a water bottle instead of buying a new one.
- Don't use plastic straws for drinks.
- Carry shopping in fabric bags, not plastic bags.
- Talk to your family about buying things that are made of other materials, not plastic.
- Talk to your head teacher or school council about how your school can use less plastic.

## Did You Know...?

- The amount of plastic that humans use every year weighs the same as 30 million elephants!
- By the year 2050, there could be more plastic in the world's oceans than fish!









# Questions

- 1. Whose responsibility is it to look after the earth and everything in it? Tick one.
  - adults
  - children
  - everyone
  - $\bigcirc$  people who live near the sea
- 2. Draw lines to match these sentences.



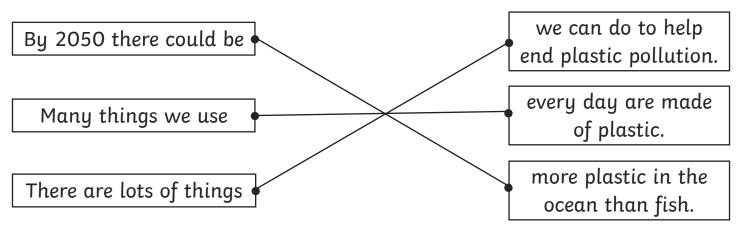
- 3. Number the events below to show the order in which they happen.
  - Plastic ends up in oceans and rivers.
  - People use plastic and throw it away.
  - ] Plastic traps and harms fish and other sea animals.
- 4. Find and copy one word that describes plastic.
- 5. Find and copy one thing you can do to help end plastic pollution.





## Answers

- 1. Whose responsibility is it to look after the earth and everything in it? Tick one.
  - adults
  - children
  - ${\boldsymbol{\varnothing}}$  everyone
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- 2. Draw lines to match these sentences.



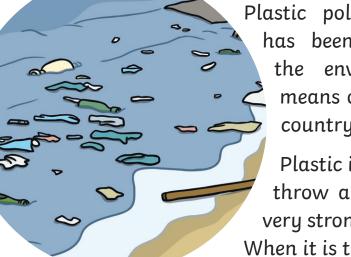
- 3. Number the events below to show the order in which they happen.
  - 2 Plastic ends up in oceans and rivers.
  - 1 People use plastic and throw it away.
  - 3 Plastic traps and harms fish and other sea animals.
- Find and copy one word that describes plastic.
  Accept any of the following: cheap; strong.
- Find and copy one thing you can do to help end plastic pollution.
  Accept any one of the points from the section 'What You Can Do', e.g.
  Reuse a water bottle instead of buying a new one.



#### **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.





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### 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.



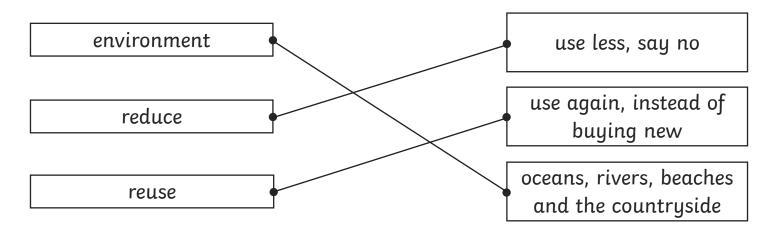
- 3. Find and copy **one** adverb that shows the author of this text is unhappy about water pollution.
- 4. Fill in the missing word.Plastic can be very \_\_\_\_\_\_ to fish and sea creatures.
- 5. What can you do instead of buying new water bottles?
- 6. Which fact from this text do you think is the worst? Give two reasons for the fact you have chosen.



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## Answers

- 1. Name one huge problem we have that is damaging our planet. **plastic pollution**
- 2. Draw lines to match these sentences.



- Find and copy one adverb that shows the author of this text is unhappy about water pollution.
   Sadly.
- Fill in the missing word.
  Plastic can be very harmful to fish and sea creatures.
- What can you do instead of buying new water bottles?
  Instead of buying new water bottles you can refill and reuse them.
- 6. Which fact from this text do you think is the worst? Give two reasons for the fact you have chosen.

Pupils' own responses. Accept any answer as long as one of the facts from the text is chosen and two reasons are given, such as: I think the worst fact is by 2050, there will be more plastic in the world's oceans than fish because fish were in the oceans before plastic and humans shouldn't be making so much rubbish.

