

Single use plastic



Darlinghurst  
ACADEMY

# Take steps towards becoming a plastic clever school



- reduce the amount of disposable plastic we use



# The Big 4

## **BIG 4** plastic polluters

- cups + lids
- straws
- Bottles
- bags



# A message from Kids (against plastic)

<https://youtu.be/TLQN2Y4v1bl>



**Achievement** ★ **Belonging** ★ **Confidence** ★ **Determination** ★ **Excellence**

# 100 years ago

Plastic was invented less than a hundred years ago, yet in this short amount of time, single-use plastic in particular has become one of the biggest made-made threats to our planet today.

From the **amount of oil** used its manufacture, the **toxic liquid** produced when plastic is buried, to the **millions of tonnes of plastic entering our oceans** per year – single-use plastic is misused and abused with severe consequences.



# Single use plastic



- Over the last 10 years humans have produced more plastic than during the last century.
- For **every** single-use plastic bottle of water, the equivalent of around 1/5th of its capacity of **oil** – a finite resource – is used.



# Coffee cups

**Did you know?** The UK alone uses **2.5 billion** disposable coffee cups per year!

In numbers, that's: **2,500,000,000,000**



Achievement ★ Belonging ★ Confidence ★ Determination ★ Excellence

# Humans



- It is likely that the seafood we eat contains microplastic in its gut or nano plastics in the meat tissue
- Microplastics in the ocean attract toxins from the water around it.
- Toxins in sealife are persistent, and biomagnify up the food chain we are the top of.



# Environment



- Around 60% of the plastic we use is single-use – used once and then thrown away, and about a truck's worth of plastic enters the world's oceans every single minute.
- By 2050 scientists believe there will be more plastic in the sea than fish (in weight terms)



# Wildlife facts



- It is estimated that 100,000 sea mammals die from entanglement and suffocation caused by plastic marine debris.
- Around 1 million sea birds die a year from ingesting pieces of plastic found on land or floating in the sea.
- Approximately one in four fish caught for human consumption has pieces of plastic in its gut.





A plastic ocean: plastic pollution

What is plastic doing to our

# What is it?

Amongst the items harming our oceans are:

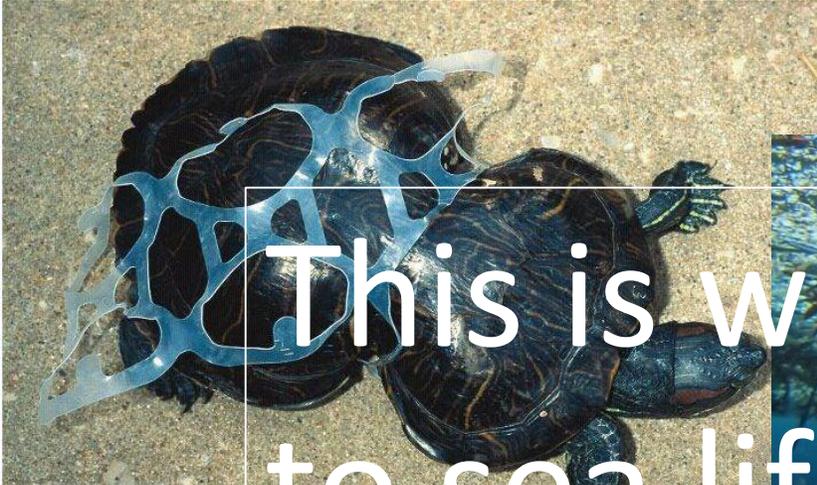
- Single use plastics such as:
- Straws.
- Plastic carrier bags.
- Plastic water bottles.
- Plastic micro-beads found in some toothpastes, facial wash and other toiletries. They will be banned from sale in the UK by the end of 2017, but much damage has already been done because of them.
- Plastic can binders/holders.



# Where does this come from?

- Plastic pollution comes from:
- Our litter, such as overflowing bins near beaches.
- Poorly managed waste discharges, and litter blown by the wind.
- Sewage systems that feed into the sea.
- Packaging and lost crates from cargo ships.

All of this plastic causes harmful pollution and it is directly caused by us.



This is what rubbish is doing to sea life



# What can we do?

- There's loads we can do to stop this situation getting any worse. We can:
  - Refuse to use plastic straws
  - Buy a reusable water bottle and fill it from a tap or fountain
  - Don't litter – especially plastics
  - Litter pick – one item per person a day will make a difference
  - Remember the 4 Rs – Refuse, reduce, reuse, recycle
  - Avoid synthetic fabrics
  - Avoid products containing micro-beads
  - SPREAD THE WORD



# WAYS TO REDUCE YOUR PLASTIC WASTE



Refill reusable bottles instead of buying bottled water



Say 'no straw, please' when ordering a drink



Carry a reusable



Refuse single-use

