



Plastic Pollution

Citizenship

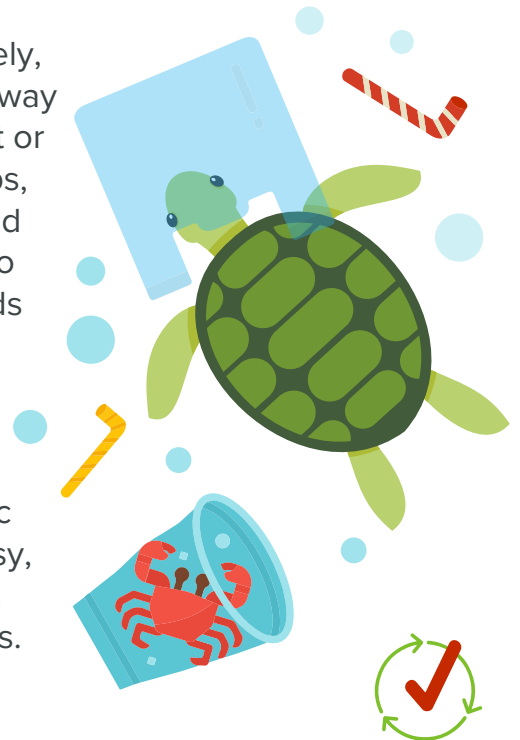
Related FlashAcademy lessons:

Beginner > Science > Protecting The Environment

Beginner > Science > Habitats

Intermediate > Environment & Society > Contamination Problems

The world's oceans are full of incredible wildlife; unfortunately, they're also filling up with plastic as human **waste** makes its way into this natural habitat. Did you know 86% of sea turtles eat or become **tangled up** in manmade rubbish? Plastic **straws**, cups, bottles and other types of packaging end up in the sea – and it stays there for a long time. Plastic takes over 1000 years to **degrade**. As well as sea turtles, animals like fish and sea birds are also **victims** of this plastic pollution, with approximately 700 species now **severely** threatened by this. If we want to save the oceans, we need to work together to reduce the use of single-use plastic. This could include bringing a reusable water bottle to school with you, saying no to plastic straws and recycling as much as you can. It's not always easy, but unless you want to be swimming in piles of rubbish next time you go to the beach, we have to try to change our ways.



Match the words or phrases from the text with a definition:

waste

stuck or wrapped up in something

tangled up

long items used to help you drink

straws

someone who has been hurt in a bad situation

degrade

seriously

victims

to wear away or disappear slowly

severely

rubbish or unwanted material

Read the text again and answer the questions:

- 1 What are the world's oceans full of?
- 2 Give two examples of the dangers of plastic pollution for sea turtles.
- 3 How long does plastic stay in the ocean?
- 4 What is the situation of around 700 species of sea animals?
- 5 Give one example of something you can do to help reduce plastic pollution.
- 6 Why do we need to change our ways when it comes to single-use plastic?



Discuss with a friend, teacher, or your class

Why should people care about plastic pollution?

What can you do to help reduce plastic pollution at school or at home?

Why do you think people still use single-use plastic when they know how harmful it can be?



Challenge!

Think of a way to try to convince people to help stop plastic pollution. You could make a leaflet, write a poem, make a video...

