

Topic:	Year group	Term
Sustainability - Plastic pollution	5	Summer

Background knowledge

Children explore the causes of plastic pollution. Children should understand that the properties of plastic make it a useful material. However, plastic can take hundreds of years to break down which can be harmful to the environment, animals and humans.

Children continue to explore plastic pollution, suggesting ways to reduce its negative impacts. It is important to show children the potential impacts on different habitats, particularly in the ocean and in or around landfill sites.

Common misconceptions

- Children may believe that all plastics are recyclable.

What should I already know?

Most children will have an understanding of how to recycle (the colour of the bin) and will build upon this knowledge and the impact plastic has on a global level.

It could be useful to use familiar food chains from Year 4, to introduce children to the fact that living things not directly exposed to plastic waste can still be affected by its pollution.

National Curriculum Objectives / Key Skills	The Journey
<u>Working scientifically</u> Identifying scientific evidence that has been used to support or refute ideas or arguments. Reporting and presenting findings from enquiries, including conclusions, causal relationships and explanations of and degree of trust in results, in oral and written forms such as displays and other presentations.	1. What is plastic pollution? 2. What are the impacts of plastic pollution on the planet?

Scientific enquiry



Outcomes

Working towards: I understand what plastic pollution is.

Expected: I understand what plastic pollution is and can explain the impacts this can have on different habitats.

Exceeding: I understand what plastic pollution is and can explain the impacts this can have on different habitats. I can give a wide range of examples with solutions on how to solve plastic pollution issues.

Key Vocabulary

Plastic - an artificial material that is strong, lightweight and mouldable

Habitat - an area where animals and plants live

Plastic pollution - when humans add plastic into the environment

Landfill - an area or site where waste materials are disposed of. Often the waste is buried underneath the ground

Pollution - when humans add harmful materials to the environment

Timeline / Diagrams



Microplastics - pieces of plastic which are smaller than 5 millimetres	
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Key people / places

STEM Scientist

Assessment questions / outcomes
