

A background image of a vast ocean under a sunset sky. The sky transitions from a deep blue at the top to a bright yellow and orange near the horizon. The water is a deep blue with gentle ripples.

# Ocean Pollution Around the World

Mrs. Krieger  
Thomas Edison Elementary School  
Anaheim, CA

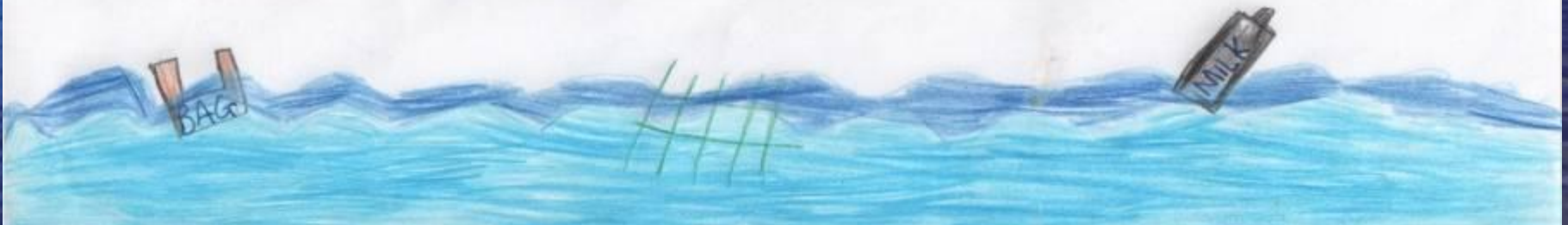
- Euan, from a Grade 4 class in Stourbridge, West Midlands, United Kingdom, contributed an amazing article to our project about ocean pollution.
- Euan wrote about the causes of ocean pollution in and around England, as well as some of the efforts that are being made locally to clean the waterways.
- Great job Euan! Thanks for your contribution to our project!

By Euan Graskin Year 4



# Ocean Pollution

Our environment is being ruined because of people who can't care less about our world. These people leave litter, bottles, etc lying around and the wind blows them all over the place, and a lot of it ends up in seas, oceans and rivers. This is extremely dangerous and unhygienic. It is wrecking the oceans and most importantly it is making animals homes dirty and polluted. We must stop this. The rubbish that is making the ocean not a clean place are plastic bags, bottles, paper, plastic nets and other fishing paraphernalia. This poses a big threat to wildlife. Each household in the west uses an average of 300 plastic bags a year, which is a staggering seven billion bags in total. Most of these items are light and can drift on the water so they will find their way even to the most far away untouched areas. In one recorded case an island was found to have accumulated 950 items of rubbish on its shores.



# DANGEROUS DEBRIS

Pieces of litter which are casually discarded are often the most damaging. While some of this trash is left directly on the beach, much of it originates as street litter from cities where it is washed down to sea through storm water drains and rivers. Litter can last in the ocean for many years.

- Large commercial fishing nets can entangle and injure or kill animals.
- Small plastic bags can be mistaken for food and eaten by marine life.
- Larger debris such as shipping containers can act as a navigational hazard to fishing and recreational boats.

Plastics are of most concern because they do not biodegrade (break down into smaller pieces).

Marine debris has a negative impact on humans too because it can carry toxic chemicals or infectious diseases. Debris on the beach eg: Glass and needles can cause cuts and scrapes.

1. This is an example of litter on the shore line.



2. In this picture rubbish has accumulated near people's homes.

## What Can We Do About It?

- Use reusable shopping bags instead of plastic bags?
- Reduce, reuse, and recycle.
- Dispose of rubbish in closed containers.
- Pick up any litter you see out and about.
- Participate in coastal and beach cleaning programmes.
- Contact your local government to let them know of the problem.



# SCUBA CLUB DIVE IN TO CLEAN UP RESERVOIR

## Scuba club dive in to clean up reservoir



Dudley Dolphins Scarlett Morris, Cathy Kingcome, Laura Mason, Mandy Downing, Robert Meacham and Robin Turner  
A BCUBA diving club is preparing to carry out an underwater litter pick to help safeguard nature at a beauty spot.

Members of Dudley Dolphin Sub-Aqua Club will be collecting debris from the bottom of Netherton Reservoir.

It is a site where they regularly dive and while active members will be gathering rubbish from up to 15 metres below the surface, friends and family will be doing the same along the banks of the reservoir.

The dive will be taking place at the Lodge Farm reservoir, off Highbridge Road, on April 26.

Club welfare officer Mandy Downing said: "We all use the water so we should all do our bit to maintain

it and keep it as nice as we can for as long as possible. The bits of rubbish are mainly round the edges, as the area is popular with the local community for fishing and walking. Unfortunately there is an inevitable amount of litter that comes with human visitors.

"It's mainly tins and bottles and cans but there is the odd shopping trolley too. We're hoping we'll be able to recycle what we pull out."

Mandy, aged 48, who works as an area manager for a greeting card company, only started diving a year ago and now dives every week.

The Dudley Dolphin club was established in 1964 and has around 40 members. See [www.dudleydolphin.org.uk](http://www.dudleydolphin.org.uk) for details.

I was reading my local newspaper, I found this article - The Scuba club are doing an underwater litter pick. It is people like The Scuba club that we have to thank for helping to keep our rivers, seas, oceans, reservoirs etc clean. When they'd finished doing the clean, they said that the quality of the underwater of the reservoir was shockingly appalling. They found loads of plastic bags, crisp packets, bottle tops and more litter and also a few shopping trolleys! We can stop this by doing things like underwater litter picks. It'll take just a few hours of our time to help make the world a better place. Please Help to Stop Ocean Pollution. A big thanks to the Scuba Club for doing an amazing job cleaning the reservoir, they have really made a huge change to keep the water healthy!



# FRIENDS

## OF WOLLESCOTE PARK

MAKE IT HAPPEN FOR YOU  
AND YOUR COMMUNITY

Everyone welcome! All ages across the community.

### Friends of Wollescote Park

Over the Easter holidays my classmate Abigail Floyd and I went to our local park. We met some park volunteers who told us about their work, cleaning the stream and monitoring levels of pollution. We looked at some water samples fresh from the brook - It was amazing to see the different creatures that live in the water. We used a magnifying glass as some of them were tiny!

#### THE LUDGEBRIDGE BROOK PROJECT

Cleaning up the stream

BEFORE:



AFTER:



Abigail, also from England, contributed an informative PowerPoint presentation about the causes and effects of ocean pollution in her area.

The pictures that she found and included in her presentation are especially telling about the pressing problem of pollution in the world's oceans.

# Ocean Pollution

A photograph showing a massive pile of ocean pollution debris. The trash is piled high and includes various items such as plastic bottles, pieces of wood, and other unidentifiable waste. In the background, a body of water is visible under a clear blue sky. The overall scene is one of environmental degradation.

By Abigail Floyd

# How does it happen?

Sea pollution is any rubbish that ends up in the water that affects anything that lives there.



The rubbish ends up in the oceans by people using it as a giant dustbin.

# What type of rubbish gets into the oceans ?

## Sewag

The waste we flush down the toilet is a big problem.

This is called sewage.

One year 17,000 cotton buds were found on UK beaches.

Oceans are being polluted by the ten biggest water companies in Britain.



# Litter and plastic

Litter is swamping our oceans and washing up on UK beaches.

There are nearly 2,500 items of rubbish for every kilometre on a beach in Britain.

Turtles mistake plastic bags for jellyfish and the bags block their stomachs.

Seabirds mistake floating plastic litter for food. In the North Sea off the East coast of Britain, 90% of fulmars found dead, had plastic in their stomachs.



# Chemicals

Oil and paint contain chemicals that are harmful to sea-life.

Ships have accidents and oil accidentally spills into the sea.



As seas have no barriers, pollutants like oil can spread very quickly to different waters around the world.

Luckily, some birds can be saved.



# to raise awareness?

- Encourage people to look at the Environment Agency website and follow their advice.

Environment Agency

Rio House

Waterside Drive, Aztec West

Almondsbury, Bristol BS32 4UD

Tel: 0870 8506506

Email:

[enquiries@environment-agency.gov.uk](mailto:enquiries@environment-agency.gov.uk)

[www.environment-agency.gov.uk](http://www.environment-agency.gov.uk)



**ENVIRONMENT  
AGENCY**

- Post information online to make people more aware of pollution.
- Encourage people to reuse and recycle instead of throwing things away.
- Make posters to raise awareness.
- Persuade people to volunteer to pick up rubbish found on beaches.



Harry and Theo, also from England, contributed articles about their research on pollution in the world's oceans.

Harry examined the idea that every day activities can potentially contribute to pollution of the ocean. And Theo focused on the amount of time that it takes each type of trash to biodegrade once it reaches a water environment.

Thank you so much, Harry and Theo, for your contributions!

## How water pollution Happens.

By Harry W

### Introduction

Most water pollution comes from every day people doing everyday things.

- For example:
- Fertilizer
- Sewage
- Taking care of our homes
- Working at our jobs

We may contribute to water pollution without realizing it.

### Explanation.

In the sea about 100,000 fish die every year due to water pollution. Also one million sea birds are killed every year by plastic waste.

Say you were eating a sandwich and you are at the beach and you threw the packet into the sea and it got tangled in a birds feet, you would be polluting and you would damage that bird.

Sewage takes away the oxygen in the water which stops sea life from growing.

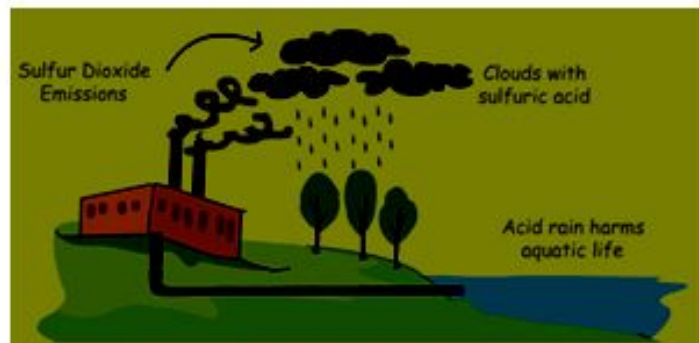
Acid rain gets into the water and blinds fish and kills plants as well as killing coral and other creatures. This is because too much acid gets into the sea.



Acid rain gets into the water and blinds fish and kills plants as well as killing coral and other creatures. This is because too much acid gets into the sea.

If acid rain gets under ground it would be called ground water pollution. This is often caused by pesticides and fertilizer.

In our homes cleaning products could cause water pollution as well as weed killer and fertilizer.



If you work with companies which supply oil and gas you could be contributing to water pollution. If oil is taken in a ship to the USA and the ship crashed it would kill and pollute the sea.

### Conclusion.

Now I have done this piece of work, you and I will hopefully not pollute when we older. Maybe in the future we won't have as much pollution because the people who were polluting will have died.

## The Pollution of the Ocean & Waterways

Ocean pollution is caused by human and natural causes, which include oil spills, toxic waste and floating plastic.

Pollution affects marine life by poisoning the fish through toxic chemicals, this is then spread through the marine food chain. Trash in the ocean can make marine life as well as human life ill because it could carry diseases such as cholera and dysentery.

Rubbish from the city can spread into nearby waterways through sewage. Sometimes it gets there by litterbugs. IE: people who throw litter onto the ground for no reason, some even throw it directly into the waterway (IE. Canal) for no real reason. An item dropped in the street can drift into the gutter, fall down the grid and enter the sewage system that travels out into the sea.

The most harmful item in the UK that has contributed to pollution on land and within water is plastic. Dumping of litter in the sea can cause huge problems. Litter items such as 6-pack ring packaging can get caught on marine animals and may result in death.

Different items take different lengths of time to degrade in water:

Cardboard – Takes 2 weeks to degrade.

Newspaper – Takes 6 weeks to degrade.

Photodegradable packaging – Takes 6 weeks to degrade.

Foam – Takes 50 years to degrade.

Styrofoam – Takes 80 years to degrade.

Aluminium – Takes 200 years to degrade.

Plastic packaging – Takes 400 years to degrade.

Glass – It takes so long to degrade that we don't know the exact time.



Anthony V., from Anaheim, CA, contributed this article.  
Thank you Anthony!

It is bad to throw trash on the floor. When you throw trash on the floor, you may not notice, but when wind comes, anything will go toward the ocean. That will cause very bad consequences. First, the trash will gather at a certain point in the ocean. The water there will be polluted. After that, the animals will start to die because they will think that the trash would be their food. If they die, we will run out of food. That is just a circle of bad. So, when you see a piece of trash, it is good to just throw it in a trash can. That will help the environment a lot. Every time you see a piece of trash, think about all of this. If you pick it up, you will automatically do good.