



Where does it go?

Around the world, plastic pollution has become a growing plague, clogging our waterways, damaging marine ecosystems, and entering the marine food web. Much of the plastic rubbish we generate on land flows into our oceans through stormwater drains and watersheds. It falls from garbage and container trucks, spills out of rubbish bins or is tossed carelessly.

Orientation:

T asks Ss: 'How does rubbish end up in the ocean?'. Elicit ideas from Ss. Continue to ask Ss questions that get them thinking beyond the rubbish and recycle bin. e.g. 'What happens to the rubbish that gets left on the ground?' or 'Where does rubbish go when it can't be recycled?' Cover the concept of 'landfill' and 'recycle'.

Letter from the toy:

Another letter arrives from Malmo (the toy with marine debris stuck to it). The letter explains the concept of rubbish making its way into the ocean, how this happens and intercultural concepts.

Plastic bag mockumentary:

Video clip showing Ss how plastic bags can end up in the ocean.

This is embedded in the PowerPoint presentation and can be played at the end of the lesson.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GLgh9h2ePYw>

Check for understanding after the video clip by having a discussion with Ss.

Sequence of events:

Ss use Sequence of Event Cards and in groups put them together to demonstrate their understanding of how rubbish can end up in waterways.

Flow chart:

Ss can then make their own rubbish flow chart demonstrating their understanding of how rubbish gets into waterways. T models this on the whiteboard first and elicits ideas from Ss. Foundation year: Ss can draw pictures to show understanding. Years 1, 2 & 3: Ss can write short captions underneath their pictures and share with the class. Ss could also set up little scenarios and take photos for their flow chart.

YEAR LEVEL

Foundation – Year 3

MATERIALS

PowerPoint presentation
F-3 Lesson 4.ppt (includes:
plastic bag mockumentary at
the end - video clip)

Equipment for students to
view PowerPoint presentation

Sequence of Events Cards

Healthy Waterways Games &
Activities book

KEY WORDS

- Landfill
- Recycle
- Waterways
- Flow
- Gyre



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Response letter: Ss could write a response letter to Amani in Kenya explaining how rubbish is dealt with in Australia and suggesting some ways they can improve how they handle rubbish over in Kenya. Elicit from Ss some ideas about who they would need to talk to if they wanted to change something like the way rubbish was handled in a country (e.g. Ss may suggest to Amani that he could write a letter to the leader of the country, or Amani could organise a beach clean-up). T would also need to model language and structure of a letter for Ss and adapt according to the level of Ss.

Tangaroa Blue Foundation has contacts with students in Kenya who would be willing to write back to your students if you wanted to send their letters 'in real time'!!! Contact us at: info@tangaroablue.org to organise a penfriend for your students.

Healthy Waterways Games & Activities book:

1. *Learn to be a brain drain p.6*
2. *A sea turtle's story p.8.*

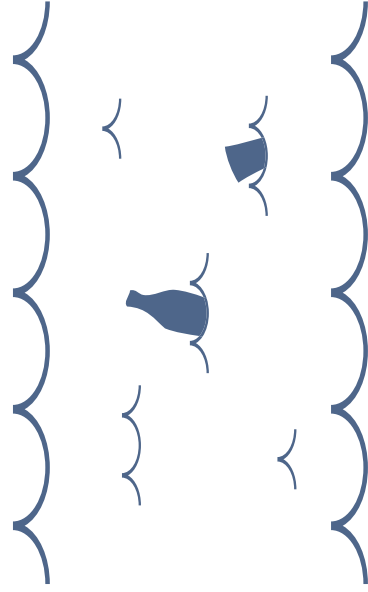
These are fun worksheets related to this lesson about how debris ends up in our waterways.



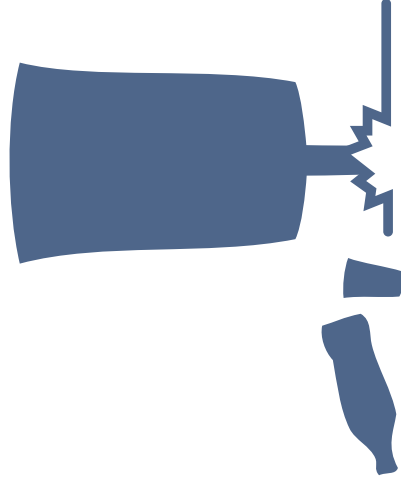
Sequence of Event Cards



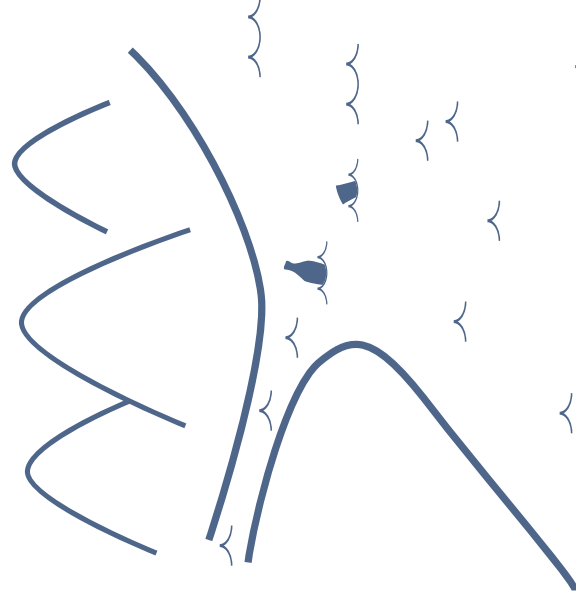
People using plastic bottles/cups



Drains lead into rivers and creeks



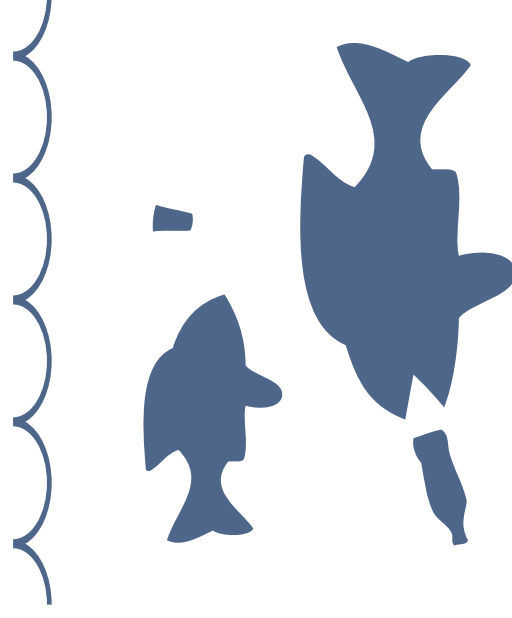
Plastic bottles get thrown on the ground



Rivers and creeks lead to the ocean



Rain washes plastic products into drains



Marine life mistakes plastic for food