The Plastics and Sustainability team

School Resources Pack: Key Stage Two (Lower)
Together, we can make plastic pollution a thing of the past
This pack contains the instructions for delivering 1-1.5 hour workshops to primary school children about plastic that are in line with the national curriculum. There are four sessions aimed at different age groups; Key stage (KS) 1 lower, KS1 upper, KS2 lower and KS2 upper. They are designed so that the same children could receive all four sessions throughout their time at primary school but also work separately. For delivery each session has a PowerPoint, worksheets and activities.

When delivering a session be as engaging as possible, the aim of these sessions is to enthuse and educate children around the issues of plastic pollution.

*Be enthusiastic, be kind and have fun!*

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Key Stage Two (Lower)

What to Expect

Children in KS2 (Lower) will be aged 7-9 and in their fourth and fifth years at primary school. At this age they will be used to sitting still for lessons and will be encouraged to ask more complex questions and think for themselves. Using some scientific language will be fine for the some of the children but potentially not all. Reading will be improved from KS1 children but make sure to vocalise the key messages.

Teachers Top Tips

- Don’t talk when a child is answering a question
- Praise a response even when the answer is wrong – independent thinking is important
- Be animated and passionate
- Don’t worry about asking the class so stop talking and listen
- Talk as little as possible (maximum 10 minutes at a time)
- Do not always pick the same child to answer questions

National Curriculum

According to the national curriculum there are certain skills and things that should be learnt before the end of each Key Stage. For lower Key Stage 2 some of these skills are:

- Recognising changes in the environment
- Understand that humans can impact the environment and living things
- Finding out about good work of naturalists such as David Attenborough
- Learning about the nutrition and diet of different animals

Learning Objectives

1. To understand that plastic can enter the environment in a number of ways which can cause harm to a number of organisms.
2. Be able to understand how their choices can reduce the amount of plastic enter thing environment.
Resources Required for Workshop

For the workshop resources have been produced to aid you in delivering the session. For the lower KS2 workshop the following things are required:

- Life cycle of a plastic bottle cards*
- Lunch box items*
- 30x Pledge cards*
- PowerPoint presentation
- 6x Word bank*

Ask the school to provide:
- One mini white board per child
- A4 paper

*these resources require printing and cutting out before the session. Please reuse resources where possible, items such as the cards can be reused by many groups.
(All numbers given are based on a class of 30; more worksheets and pledge cards will be required for a bigger class as the children need 1 each).

Word Bank

A word bank provides the key words used throughout the workshop for the class, these should be printed out and placed on each table to help facilitate the learning and spelling of new vocabulary. Some words may already be known and some may be new.

Activity Instructions

Activity 1: Starter 1 – What is happening?

**Time:** 10 minutes  
**PowerPoint slides:** 3

This activity will get the class thinking about some of the issues associated with plastic pollution. Ask the class to write their responses on a white board and hold them up, some of the most common/best responses can be written on the board. Some questions to ask; How does this make you feel? Why might this be happening? What can be done about it? Whose responsibility is it?
Activity 2: Starter 2 – David Attenborough

Time: 10 minutes
PowerPoint slides: 4

This video will demonstrate the good work of naturalists such as David Attenborough and show the class that everyone is able to take action against plastic pollution. Before starting the video ask if anyone knows David Attenborough and what they think he does. It is important to explain there are lots of other naturalists (another good example is Jane Goodall), they are important in getting the public to understand our planet. After the video ask if there’s any questions.

Activity 3: Main 1 – What’s in your lunchbox?

Time: 30 minutes
PowerPoint slides: 5-13

The lunchbox challenge was shown in the David Attenborough clip and this activity will be similar to that. If the workshop is taking place after lunch the children will have to remember what they had for lunch, if it is before lunch then ask them to get their lunchboxes. Ask children who don’t have packed lunch to pair up with someone that does.

1. Ask the class to count how many items are in the lunchbox from the following categories: drinks bottle, drinks carton, snack bar wrapper, yoghurt pot, crisp packet, cling film and other.
2. Call out each item and get the class to put their hand up if it’s in their lunchbox. Count the number of hands and write down the total for each item.
3. Using the cut out images and the axis on the power point create a bar chart showing how much of each item the class uses (if there are a lot of plastics use you may need to make one item on the board equal to 2 or 5 items in the class).
4. Ask the class to think of alternatives that they can use. Show the image of the single-use item, get the children to write on their white board what they could use instead and then reveal our answer. Remember that just because their answer is different to ours it doesn’t mean it is wrong.

Activity 4: Mini plenary – What will you do?

Ask the class to think for 30 seconds about what they will ask their parents or carer to change in their lunchbox to reduce the amount of plastic. Then ask them to discuss it with the person next to them for 1 minute. Ask a few members of the class to feed back their answers.
Activity 5: Main 2 – Lifecycle of a single use plastic bottle

**Time:** 30 minutes  
**PowerPoint slides:** 14-21

Start by asking the class if they can explain what a lifecycle is, the first slide will help with this. The life cycle of a single-use plastic bottle will demonstrate what impact we can have on the environment just from something simple such as a plastic bottle. Start by splitting the class into groups of 4 or 5 and handing out the cards and arrows.

1. Hand out only the blue cards and arrows first. Ask the groups to put together the life cycle of the plastic bottle starting with nurdles. Explain that nurdles are little pellets of plastic that are melted down and made into lots of different plastic items. Nurdles can be made from new or recycled plastic.
2. When the class begins to finish up (about 5 minutes) bring their attention back to the front and go over the answers.
3. The next stage uses the red cards and arrows, these are to show where plastic can enter the environment and what effects this can have. There is one example slide to show what to do. Give the groups 10 minutes to add these arrows and pictures to the life cycle.
4. Bring the class back together to go over the correct answers.
5. What can you do? Talk about how avoiding plastic is the best way to stop it entering the environment, using a reusable bottle will significantly reduce the amount of plastic entering the environment. They can also carry out beach cleans and litter picks to reduce the amount of plastic already in the environment.

Activity 6: Plenary 1 – Pledges

**Time:** 10 minutes  
**PowerPoint slides:** 22

Towards the end of the session get the class thinking about what they could do to reduce the amount of plastic that they use. This could be something at home, school or in a club they belong to. Get all the children to write this on a pledge card what they personally will do. These can be shared with the Plastics and Sustainability team by posting them to our address at Manley House.
The presentation included contains notes on each slide to help you deliver it, these are a guidance and you can add in as much or as little as you like. You may want to add in a slide after the title slide explaining a bit about what your job is. The timings for each activity are also a suggestion, some groups may work quicker than others, so you can tailor this to each individual group. If you are running out of time you may want to remove the colour/drawing activity from the round-robin and leave the sheet behind for them.

There will be at least one other adult in the room with you (the teacher) and probably a teaching assistant. You can use them to help with activities and checking that the children understand what you expect of them. You could also bring a colleague with you to help with delivery.

Importantly: Enjoy the experience!

If you have any questions about any of the schools resource packs contact us. We would also love to see pictures of the workshops being used and the pledges made. Send any queries or images to plasticsandsustainability@environment-agency.gov.uk and send your pledges to; the plastics and sustainability team, Manley House, Kestrel Way, Exeter, EX2 7LQ.