

Don't let Devon go to waste

at school

# Material World

Plastics PowerPoint for  
lessons 1 and 2



# Properties of plastics – example table

Object	What is it used for?	What properties does it have?	How do these make it useful for its job?	Symbol (if any)?
Water bottle	Containing water	transparent light	The liquid inside can be seen. It is light and easy to transport.	1
Toothbrush bristles	Cleaning teeth	light flexible non absorbent	They bend so they doesn't hurt teeth. The brush is light so it's easy to use.	2
Saucepan handle	Holding a pan	hard rigid non-conductive of heat opaque non absorbent	It doesn't bend so it supports the weight of the saucepan. It doesn't get hot so you can hold a hot saucepan. It doesn't absorb water so it's easy to clean.	

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oil

finite

7%

Russia

1855

transparent

1 million

50 years

refinery

10 million



# Fishing nets to carpet tiles



Every year 640,000 tonnes of waste material from fishing is discarded in the ocean globally.

Discarded nets float in the water trapping and killing marine wildlife and affecting the livelihoods of local fishermen.



On one island in the Philippines, local people, often unemployed women, collect and clean the nets when the fishermen can no longer use them.

A company called Interface buy the nets and transform them into recycled yarn and then carpet tiles.

Almost 67 tonnes of nets have been recycled so far.



# Benefits to people and wildlife



Selling used fishing nets for recycling has given local people extra income to provide for their families. This means they can buy school books for their children, for example.



Fishermen benefit from the recycling project because there are fewer old fishing nets floating in the sea and getting tangled in boats' engines.

Wildlife benefits by having less dangerous marine litter from discarded nets.

