

CURIOUS YOUNG MINDS CAN CHANGE THE WORLD



PROTECTING THE EARTH

EDUCATIONAL HOME PROJECT PACK
FOR AGES 7+

**PROTECT THE EARTH -
BECOME AN EARTH PROTECTOR!**



Calling all children who care about the future of the planet,
and for your own futures! This Project Pack is for you.

It encourages you and your family to work together to understand the
challenges we face, and how we can create a better future for our world.

It's time to join us. It's time to become Earth Protectors!

Share your projects with us [@dkbooks](#)
and use the hashtag [#DKCuriousYoungMinds](#)

The DK Team



The UK's No.1 Publisher of
Environmental Books for Children



BOOKS INCLUDED IN THIS PACK



DK FINDOUT! CLIMATE CHANGE

Understand the facts about climate change and discover what we can do to improve the human impact on our environment.

This book lays out the science behind a natural process that has been massively sped up by humans. It explains the different ways in which we have caused the climate to heat up, from traffic pollution to animal farming, and the widespread effects of this change.



BE PLASTIC CLEVER

Join teenage activists Amy and Ella Meek on their mission to rid the world of single-use plastics in this practical book, perfect for budding eco-warriors.

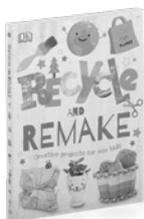
Be Plastic Clever will teach young activists about the dangers of plastic pollution and climate change, but also to help them find their voice. Amy and Ella want their book to help young readers shout about the issues they are passionate about and inspire them to become young activists in their own right.



THE SEA BOOK

Featuring fascinating fishy facts accompanied by bright, bold, and beautiful illustrations, this book takes children on a journey through the sea and all its zones.

Touching on mammals, fish, invertebrates, and reptiles, *The Sea Book* explores a wealth of incredible marine animals and their habitats, from up on the ice, down to colourful coral reefs, underwater forests, and right down to the deepest darkest depths where the weird and wonderful lurk..



RECYCLE AND REMAKE

Kids are on a mission to save the Earth! *Recycle and Remake* is the hands-on, practical guide you need to get started.

With *Recycle and Remake*, you will soon be saving trees by making your own seeded recycled paper from junk mail, cleaning up the oceans by turning old carrier bags into kites, friendship bracelets, and colourful weaved baskets, and repurposing a cardboard box into a periscope.



BECOME AN EARTH DEFENDER

EDUCATIONAL OBJECTIVES

This pack includes x4 'Project Tasks' that incorporate a range of different books with the theme of **PROTECTING** the Earth. They can be completed individually by children or with the help of a sibling or adult. The activities encourage children to identify some of the threats to the earth and how they can be empowered to make changes to help protect the planet.

PROJECT TASK 1: THREATS TO OUR PLANET

Learn About: Climate Change, Threats to the Planet, Future Impact, Human Responsibility

Book: *DKfindout! Climate Change*

Subject Checklist: ✓Geography ✓Literacy ✓Science: Biology ✓Citizenship ✓RSHE
✓Art Design & Technology

PROJECT TASK 2: THE PLASTIC PROBLEM

Learn About: The Plastic Problem, Impact on Land and Sea, 'Artivism'!

Book: *Be Plastic Clever*

Subject Checklist: ✓Geography ✓Literacy ✓Science: Biology ✓Citizenship ✓RSHE
✓Art Design & Technology

PROJECT TASK 3: DIVE INTO A WATERY WORLD

Learn About: The Ocean, Creatures in the Sea, Threats to / Actions to Protect Sea Creatures

Book: *The Sea Book*

Subject Checklist: ✓Geography ✓Literacy ✓Science: Biology ✓Citizenship ✓RSHE
✓Art Design & Technology

PROJECT TASK 4: RECYCLING CHAMPIONS

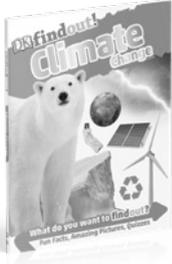
Learn About: Litter, Recycling Different Materials, Remaking, Recycling in the Home or Community

Book: *Recycle and Remake*

Subject Checklist: ✓Literacy ✓Citizenship ✓RSHE ✓Art Design & Technology

PROJECT TASK ONE

THREATS TO OUR PLANET



BOOK: *DKfindout! Climate Change*

First things first: The Impact of Climate Change

There are lots of different threats to our Planet. You can see some of them in the table below.

All of these are covered in the book *DKfindout! Climate Change* - but which are you most interested in or passionate about?

In the table, write a short definition for each threat to our planet and rank it according to how passionate you are about it.

Extension: A row has been left blank for you to fill in!

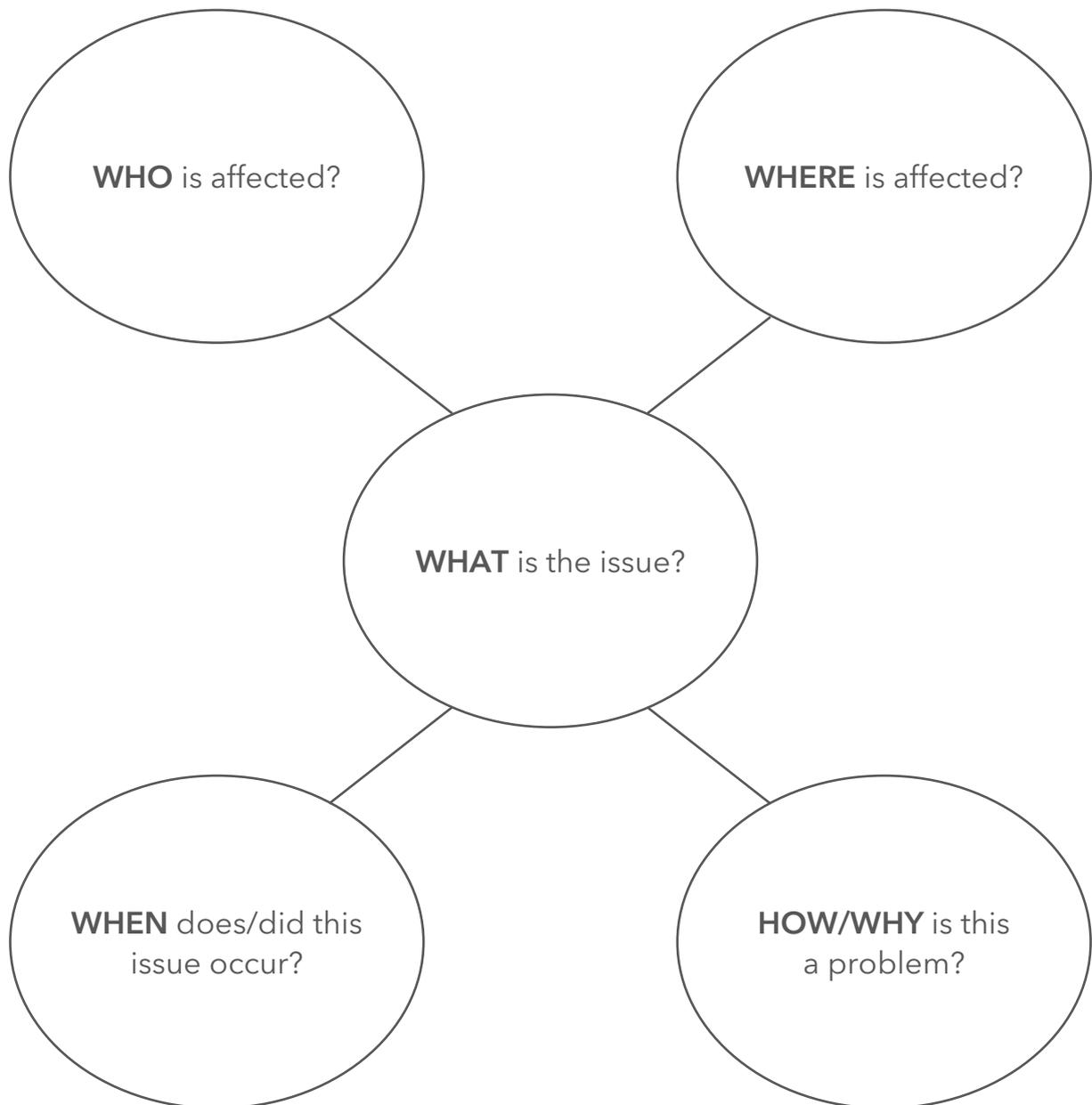
CLIMATE CHANGE ISSUE	DEFINITION – WHAT DOES THIS MEAN?	HOW PASSIONATE AM I ABOUT THIS TOPIC? RANK (1-8) 1 = THE MOST PASSIONATE
Deforestation		
Food waste		
Polar crisis		
Changing sea levels		
Sinking islands		
Coral bleaching		
Extreme weather		

DEVELOPMENT

What am I passionate about?

Choosing your own passion from the table that you've just completed, mind-map what you know about this topic. Make sure you include as much detail as possible, you might even want to use post-it notes and stick them to your wall or fridge as a reminder.

MY CHOSEN PASSION IS



LET'S PROTECT!

Create an educational poster as part of your personal campaign to protect the planet!

In order for your poster to have as much impact as possible, you need to make sure that you use lots of persuasive devices.

First, match up the devices below with their definitions, sticking them down together or writing them down on a large sheet of coloured paper. Then, next to each one, give at least one example of that device that you could use in your poster to inspire others.

FACT

Using words that start with the same letter

Listing three examples or descriptions for effect

RHETORICAL QUESTION

ALLITERATION

OPINION

A question that doesn't require an answer

A true statement that can be proven

DIRECT ADDRESS

Words used to get a specific emotional reaction from the reader

The use of numbers or data

RULE OF THREE/TRIPLET

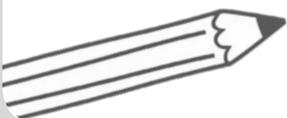
EMOTIVE LANGUAGE

Words such as 'you' and 'we' used to involve your audience

A personal belief or view

STATISTIC

Make sure that you make your poster bright and eye-catching, stick it somewhere where people can see it, and let them know about your **PASSION** for protecting the planet against climate change!



PROJECT TASK TWO

THE PLASTIC PROBLEM



BOOK: *Be Plastic Clever*

First things first: What is the Plastic Problem?

Read pages 12-13 of *Be Plastic Clever*. Make notes about why plastic is such a big threat to the earth. Can you define what we mean by 'the plastic problem'?

Hi! We're Amy and Ella from KIDS AGAINST PLASTIC



I'm Amy,
the author
of this book

We're really pleased that you've found our book and, more importantly, that you're keen to do your bit to help save the planet! After all, there's only one Earth so we best take care of it.

Just before we start, we'd like to quickly clear something up. Our campaign is called Kids Against Plastic, but that doesn't mean that we're against **ALL** plastic. That would be a bit daft, especially because of how reliant we all are on plastic, whether we like it or not. Instead, we are focused on tackling **single-use plastics** – the convenience items we use once for just minutes before leaving them to persist in the environment forever. Anyway, more on that later.

We're guessing that you've probably already heard that plastic pollution is becoming a really big problem for us humans. We've created an environmental disaster that is quickly spiralling out of control. Our beautiful, picture-postcard locations – beaches, rivers, and national parks – are becoming covered in a blanket of plastic waste. We're hearing scary facts in the news about how by 2050 there'll

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be **more plastic in the oceans than fish**, and almost on a daily basis we're seeing the impact of plastic on animals and wildlife. You've seen the photos of whales, turtles, and seabirds washing up on beaches around the world dead, with their stomachs stuffed full of plastic, right? And the chances are, if you've eaten fish, mussels, or crab recently, you've probably swallowed some microscopic pieces of plastic in the process!

You see, the important thing to remember about plastic pollution is that it's not an issue that only concerns beach dwellers, sea life, or people living near rivers; it affects **EVERYONE**, even if sometimes invisibly. And, it's an issue that **EVERYONE** is contributing to. Sometimes unknowingly, like when we flush microfibres from our washing machines into the waterways, or by visibly littering in the environment. We'd bet that you've probably encountered plastic waste before in your life: in the form of plastic bottles thrown onto motorway verges or plastic cups scattered across festival fields. Whether we like it or not, plastic is in all our lives, for the better or worse. It's something we can all see before us, can touch, and sometimes even smell – yuk! And plastic pollution not only stinks, it's ugly to look at. No one likes to walk through their local park and see bags in the trees or wrappers on the ground.



I'm Ella!

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THE "PLASTIC PROBLEM" IS _____

DEVELOPMENT

Impact on Land and Sea

In the extract from *Be Plastic Clever*, we learn about the different impacts of the plastic problem on both land and sea.

What are these impacts? Can you think of any more? Split a piece of paper into two, with one half representing **Land** and the other half representing **Sea**. Write down or illustrate all of the impacts of plastic on the environment, as well as on humans.

LAND



SEA



LET'S PROTECT!

On pages 28–29 of *Be Plastic Clever*, the diary entry entitled 'Artivism' describes how Amy and Ella create a 'Monster of the Ocean' sculpture out of plastic.

Dear Diary...

"Artivism"

Using art to support a campaign or promote a cause is a tried and tested approach. The idea is to create something that looks interesting or appealing at first glance – this is sometimes referred to as "eye candy" – but once looked at more closely, a deeper message is revealed.

The Monster of the Ocean

Ella and I were around 9 and 11 years old, I think, when we decided to build our Monster of the Ocean sculpture. It was a dangerous-looking sea reptile-y thing made from plastic that had been washed up onto a beach in North Yorkshire. I'm not even sure that we were that into plastic pollution at that point – I guess we were just fed up of seeing **plastic rubbish washed up on the beaches** where we liked to play. Oh, and the plan was to enter our sculpture into a competition being run by an ethical ocean-focused clothing company.

So, **we did a beach clean**, took the rubbish items we'd collected home and washed them all in a big dustbin full of soapy water. Then we started building and gluing the different objects together to create our piece of art. We had no idea what the Monster should look like, but we used a jaw-like piece of tubing as a starting point and just made it up from there. Eventually – tada! – the final touches were completed and our **Monster of the Ocean** was ready to be taken back to its original habitat for a photoshoot. It was a metaphor for the threat of plastic to our oceans, and we were very happy with our **"ARTIVISM"** (art + activism = artivism).

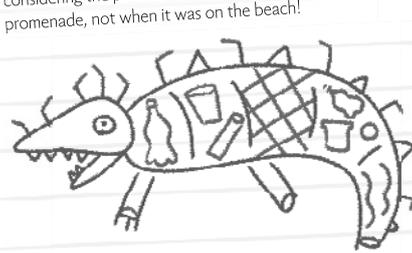
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Plastic irony in Brighton

A few years later, we had become much more aware of **plastic pollution**. So, after visiting an exhibition on ocean plastic at a museum in Brighton, we headed straight to the beach – fists clenched, feeling angry and determined – to see what state it was in. We found lots of what we would later start referring to as the **Big 4** (plastic cups and lids, straws, bottles, and bags), as well as large quantities of Nylon fishing line and netting.

We felt compelled to try to do our bit to raise awareness and took all of the rubbish we'd cleared up to the promenade. We used the discarded netting to create a mesh onto which we added bottle tops, bottles, and bags. The strings of lids and bottles we tied onto it rattled annoyingly against the metal railings – perfect! We chalked slogans and stats about plastic pollution onto the pavement.

As we walked away, we turned and looked proudly at our **artivism installation** – after all, we'd removed plastic that had been on that beach for years! The next day, however, we learned that the council had removed our installation. We were not happy at all, but were able to smile at the irony of the council only considering the plastic to be a nuisance once it was on the promenade, not when it was on the beach!



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This sculpture is their message to everyone about the dangers of plastic.

Create your own 'Monster of the Ocean' / 'Monster of the Earth' sculpture using plastic materials that you can find in your home. Share your sculptures with us @dkbooks and use the hashtag #DKCuriousYoungMinds.



FEED ME!



PROJECT TASK THREE

DIVE INTO A WATERY WORLD



BOOK: *The Sea Book*

First things first: What Does the Sea Mean to You?

Consider the question: what does the sea mean to you? Create a list of words that come into your head with you think about the sea. You can even make a creative collage using these words!

Once you've made your list, write a poem and a corresponding illustration to show what the sea means to you. Consider reasons why the sea should be protected. You might also use the design of *The Sea Book* to inspire your own illustration.

MY SEA POEM:

ILLUSTRATION:

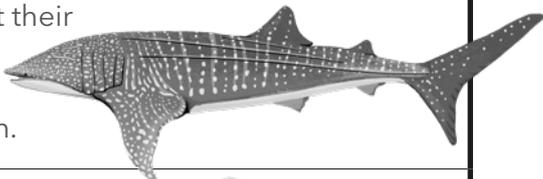
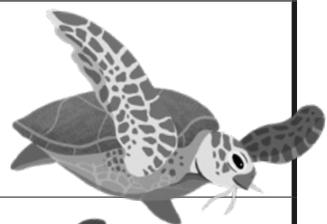
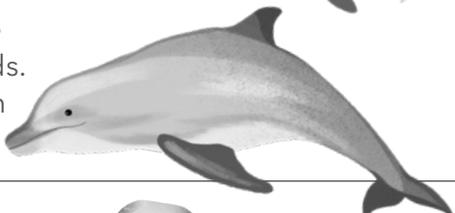
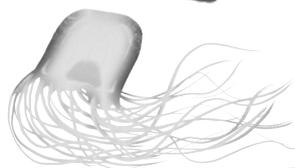
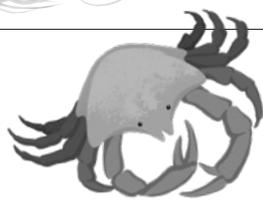
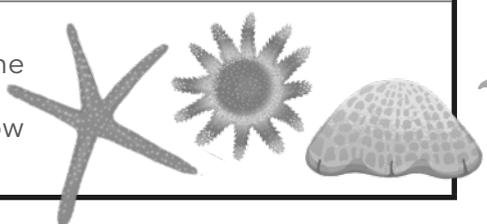
DEVELOPMENT

Sea Creature Top Trumps!

Use the information below taken from *The Sea Book* to create 6 'Top Trump' cards (use the template on page 12 of this pack). For each creature listed, draw a picture of them and write their name in the top box over the page. Then, rate them in each category out of 10, with 1 being the lowest and 10 being the highest.

For example, the Starfish may only be 2 or 3 in the 'Size' category, whereas the Whale Shark would be perhaps 9 or 10.

Extension: Come up with extra bits of information for each creature using your own research.

CREATURE	INFORMATION
Whale Sharks	The biggest fish in the sea, but their favourite meal is smallest of sea creatures - plankton. The whale shark can grow 15m. 
Sea Turtles	Takes 10-15 years to grow into an ADULT. Adults spend most of their time in coastal waters where they find food. 
Dolphins	Small, toothed whales that live together in groups called pods. A pod of dolphins talk to each other in clicks and squeaks. 
Jellyfish	They may not have brains, but they do have tentacles that can give a nasty sting. 
Crabs	These animals are protected by hard shells and have claws for capturing, crushing and cutting their prey. 
Starfish	Most Starfish have five arms... but some have more... and some have arms so short they look like cushions! Starfish can regrow their arms if they lose one. 





'Sea Creature Top Trumps' card template:


Size =
Special Features =
Intelligence =
Threats =
How Endangered Is It? =
Bonus: Interesting Info...



LET'S PROTECT!

When you have completed your Top Trumps cards, you should have learned something new about these amazing creatures in the sea!

Which creature do you feel most passionate about? Which of the threats identified in Project Tasks 1 and 2 does it most need **protection** against?

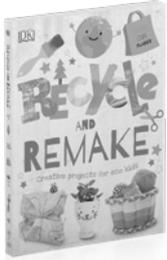
Come up with **at least five actions** that you think need to be taken across the world to protect your chosen creature. What impact will each action have?

ACTION	IMPACT
1	→
2	→
3	→
4	→
5	→



PROJECT TASK FOUR

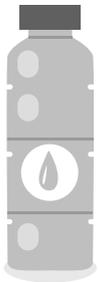
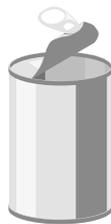
RECYCLING CHAMPIONS



BOOK: *Recycle and Remake*

First things first: **Litter Bugs**

Match the different types of litter below to the correct bins!



DEVELOPMENT

My Bin

With permission, it's time to sort through the litter! Make sure that you wear gloves or wash your hands after touching anything in the bin. Alternatively, observe what is in the bin just by taking off the lid and inspecting what you see.

Record what you find in the bin-grid below:

Plastic	Paper & Card	Cans
Compost	Glass	

Which is the most / least common material? Which materials could be recycled? Does everything that you found need to be thrown away? Could it be reused? How?



Check out pages 8-9 in *Recycle and Remake* for how to make Plastic Planters out of any old plastic bottles!





LET'S PROTECT!



Consider the following problems and come up with possible solutions:

Too much is thrown away on a daily basis.

SOLUTION: _____

The bins are not suitable.

SOLUTION: _____

People don't know how to recycle waste.

SOLUTION: _____

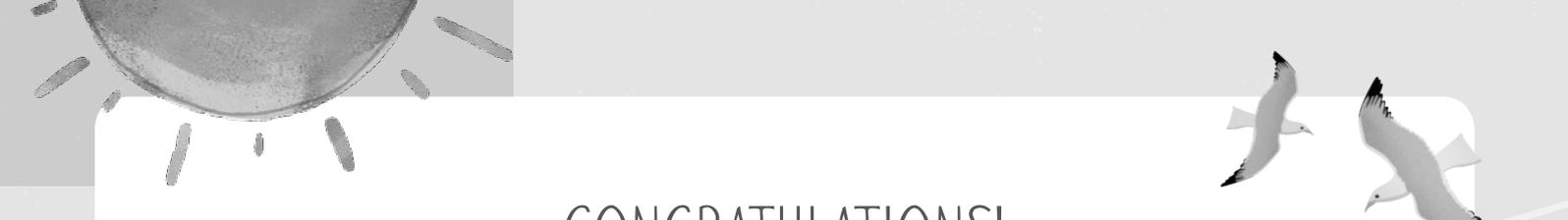
People are not aware of the impact of their habits on the world.

SOLUTION: _____

Present your findings to someone in authority (a parent/carer/teacher) with ideas for reducing waste. The title of your presentation should be: **'How to Become Recycling Champions'**.

Create a timeline of actions and materials to support your presentation.



A sun with rays is in the top left corner. Three birds are flying in the top right corner.

CONGRATULATIONS!

YOU'RE NOW AN EARTH PROTECTOR!

Here are some other ideas for how to continue protecting the planet:

- **Read more books!** Check out the DK website for lots more.
- **Join a group or donate to a charity** that fights for a cause you are passionate about.
- **Raise awareness** in your community.
- **Join in Beach Cleans** and other initiatives.
- **Carry out more research** into specific issues.
- **Design posters** and placards to support your cause.
- **Create videos** about different environmental issues.
- **Share your ideas** and your passion!

Now, don't forget to share what you've created. Send pictures of your world display to us [@dkbooks](#) and use the hashtag [#DKCuriousYoungMinds](#).

We can't wait to see how you are defending our Earth!

The DK Team

