The background of the slide is a detailed illustration of an underwater scene. It features a large school of various fish swimming in blue water. Interspersed among the fish are numerous pieces of plastic waste, including clear plastic bottles, white plastic bags, and pieces of white plastic. The overall theme is environmental pollution in the ocean.

This week we will be creating a campaign to persuade supermarkets to stop selling single use plastics to keep them out of our oceans.

Before this lesson you should have read the story of 'A Place for Plastic' and discussed/answered the questions based on the story.

Monday 22nd February 2021

For this lesson you will need:

- Pen/pencil
- Note taking template or lined paper/book from school.
- Slides to make more detailed notes after input.
- Facts support sheet

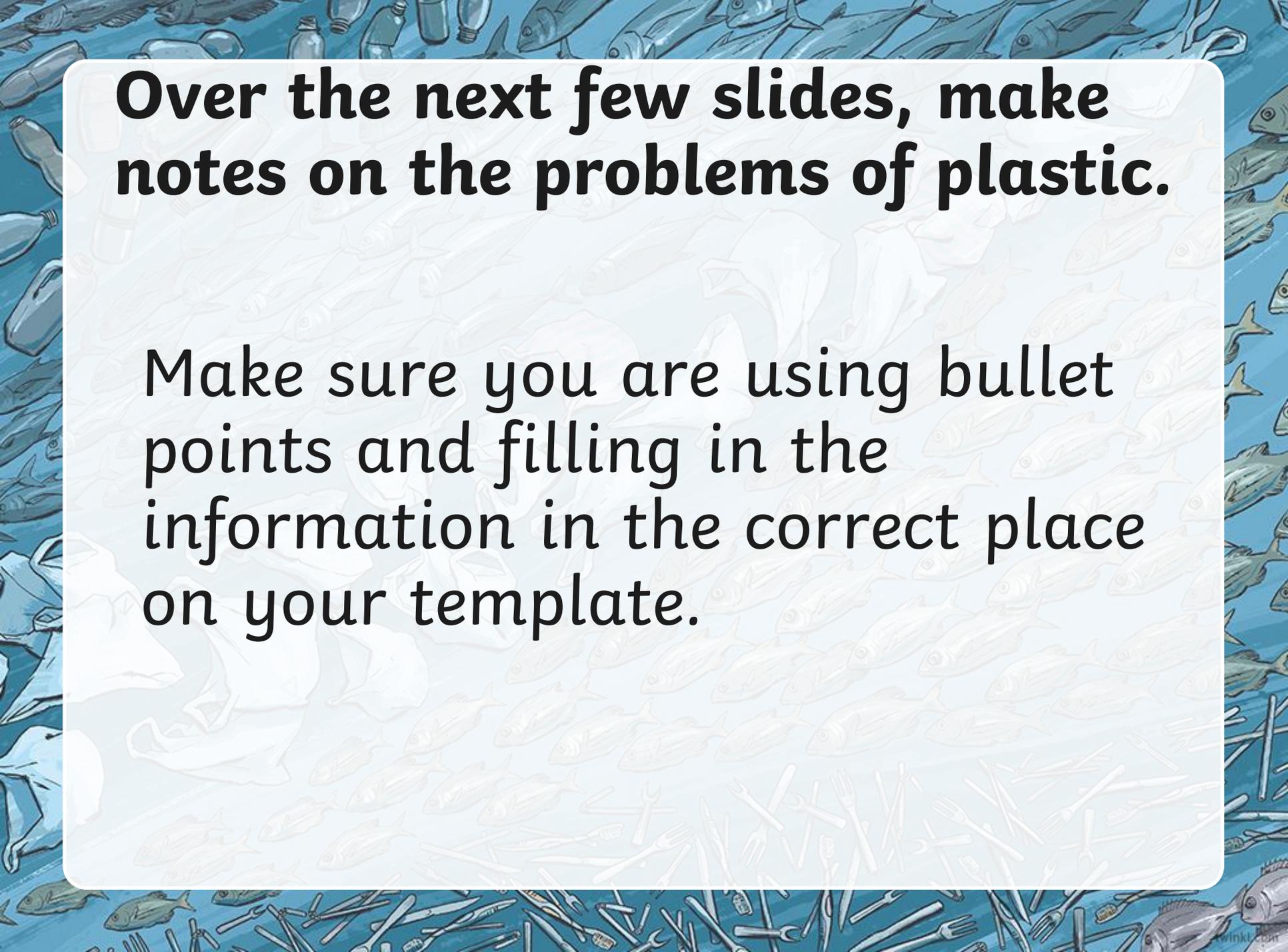
Monday 22nd February 2021

LO: To note down and develop initial ideas, drawing on reading and research where necessary.

I can develop my ideas and understanding of the problem with plastic.

I can gather information and facts.

I can record information and facts in note form.



Over the next few slides, make notes on the problems of plastic.

Make sure you are using bullet points and filling in the information in the correct place on your template.

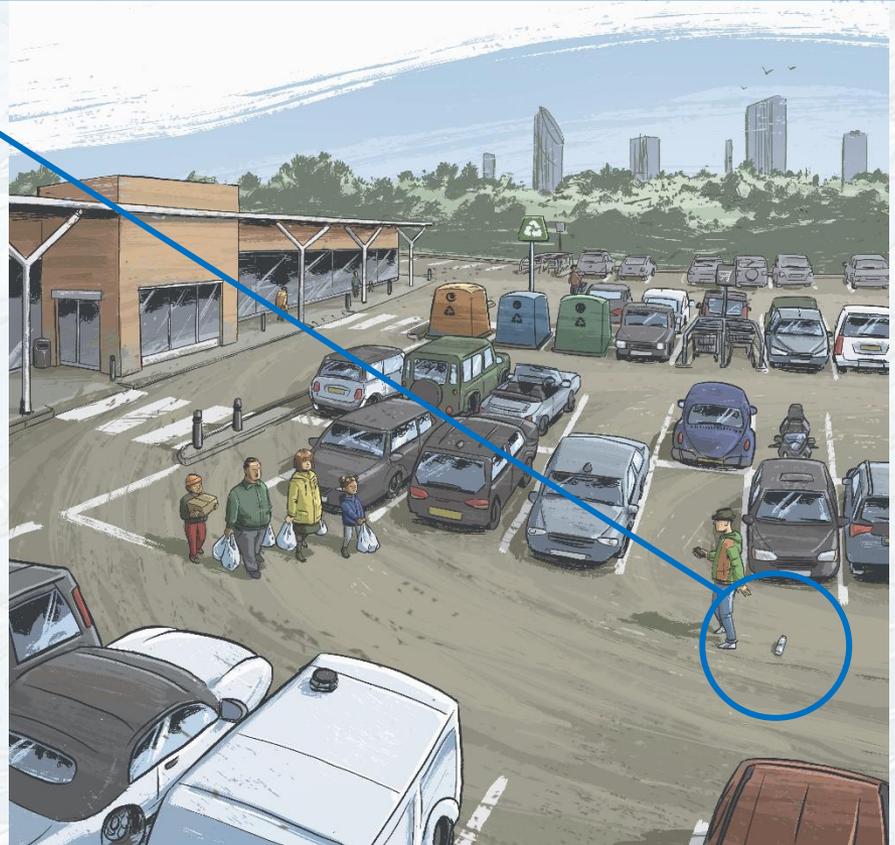
The Problem with Plastic

Can you spot the plastic problem in this image?

Littering

Dropping litter is a huge problem because:

- it makes our environment look dirty and unpleasant;
- litter often contains germs and can attract animals to it;
- some litter may be harmful to animals, people or the environment in general.



The Problem with Plastic

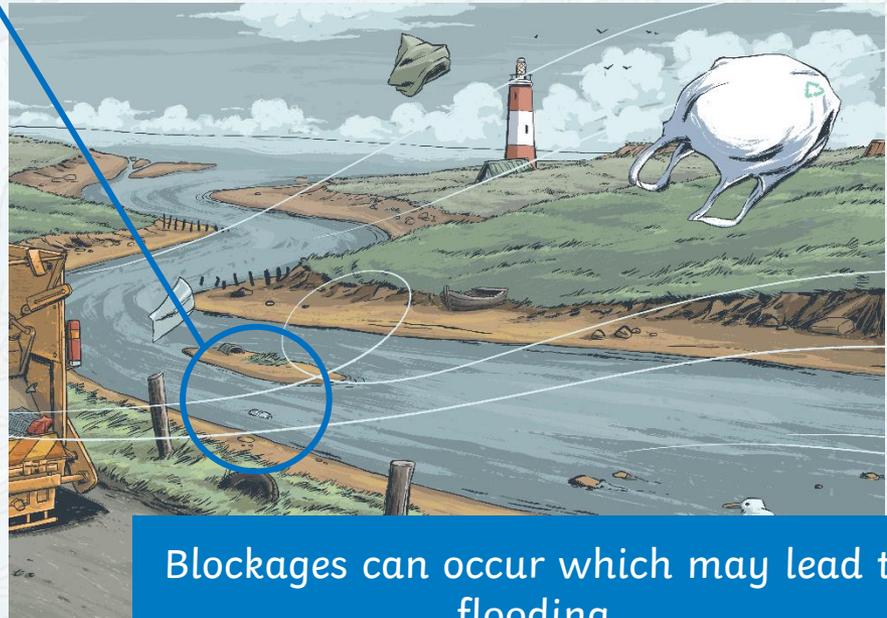
Can you spot the plastic problem in this image?

Litter in our rivers

Animals that live in the water can be injured and die if they eat plastic litter. What do you think it could cause?

A build-up of debris from rubbish can damage river habitats and prevent light from reaching water below the surface.

Chemicals from certain items affect the water quality and oxygen levels.



Blockages can occur which may lead to flooding.

The Problem with Plastic

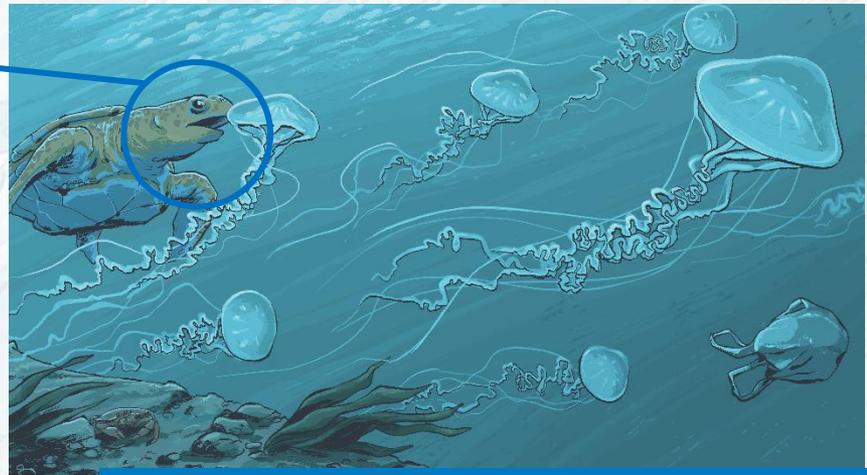
Can you spot the plastic problem in this image?

Sea turtles

What do you think is the problem for the sea turtle here?

Natural food sources for some species of sea turtle include jellyfish and algae; therefore, plastic bags and other items can be mistaken for food by the turtles.

Some research suggests that **over half** of the world's sea turtles have eaten plastic waste.



Sea turtles can also become entangled in plastic items such as fishing nets. Baby turtles are particularly at risk from plastic contaminating their nests on the beach.

The Problem with Plastic

Can you spot the plastic problem in this image?

Seabirds

How are seabirds affected by plastic?

Seabirds commonly mistake floating plastic for food. When they accidentally eat even tiny pieces of plastic, it can increase harmful chemical levels in their bodies.

With many species of seabirds already decreasing, this has become another serious threat to them.



One study estimated that according to current trends, by the year 2050, 99% of seabirds will have ingested plastic waste. It has been estimated by UNESCO that more than one million seabirds are killed every year by plastic debris.

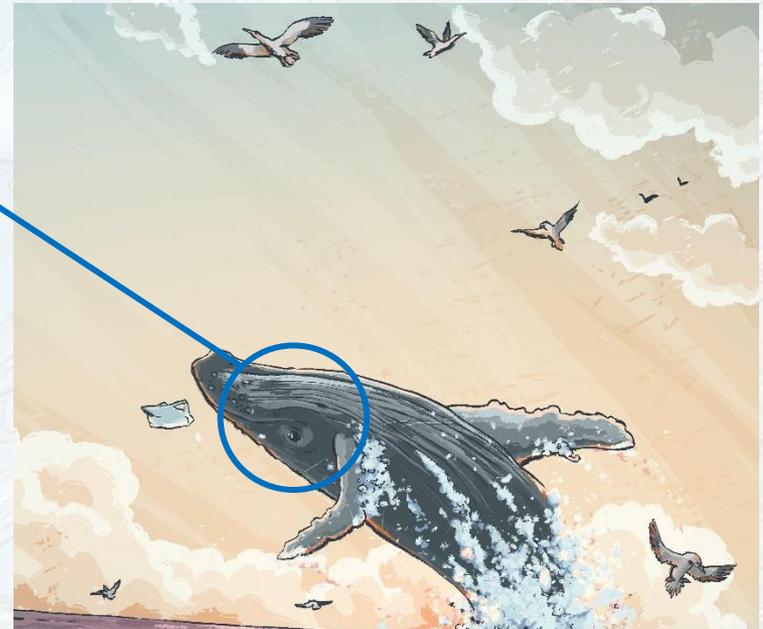
The Problem with Plastic

Can you spot the plastic problem in this image?

Whales

Can whales also be affected by plastic?

One dead pilot whale was found to have 80 plastic bags in its stomach. Another sperm whale had a 100kg ball of plastic knotted inside it when it was found on a Scottish beach.



There are many more examples of whales found to have eaten harmful amounts of plastic waste.

The Problem with Plastic

Can you spot the plastic problem in this image?

Garbage patches

There are now at least five major examples in the world's oceans where floating plastic waste has been gathered by swirling currents to form a huge collection of plastic particles in the middle of the ocean.

The largest is known as the Great Pacific Garbage Patch. As most of the plastic is in the form of tiny pieces known as 'microplastics', it is something like a 'soup' of plastic.



It is so big that it covers an area six times the size of the United Kingdom.

The Problem with Plastic

Can you spot the plastic problem in this image?

Trash 'islands'

Closer to coastlines around the world, plastic waste is often washed up by tides onto the shore.

In some parts of the world, the amount of trash collected by the water has become so large that new 'islands' have formed, floating on the surface of the sea.



Over eight million tonnes of plastic finds its way into the ocean every year; it is estimated that there will be more plastic than fish in the ocean by 2050.

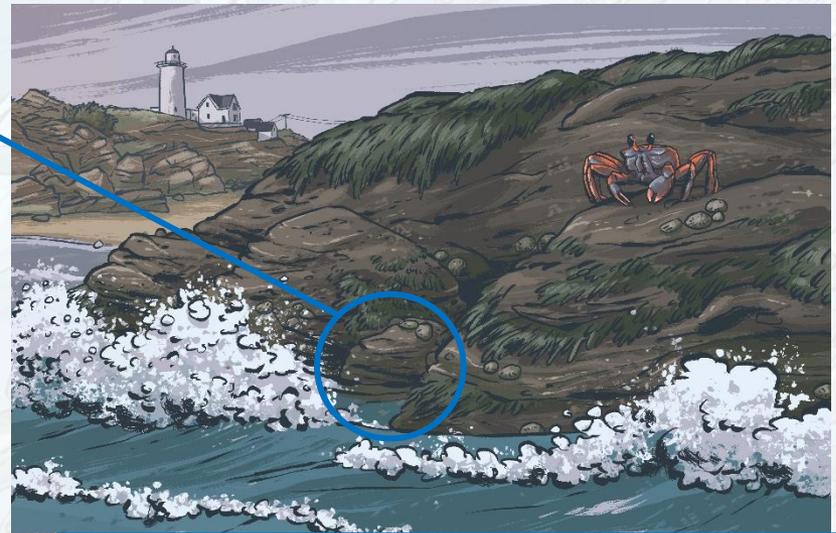
The Problem with Plastic

Can you spot the plastic problem in this image?

Plastic on the beach and shoreline

Every single day, millions of pieces of plastic find their way into our oceans. While some of this remains out at sea, huge amounts line our beaches.

As well as being unsightly and unpleasant for visitors, they can be damaging to the environment and a danger to people visiting the beaches.

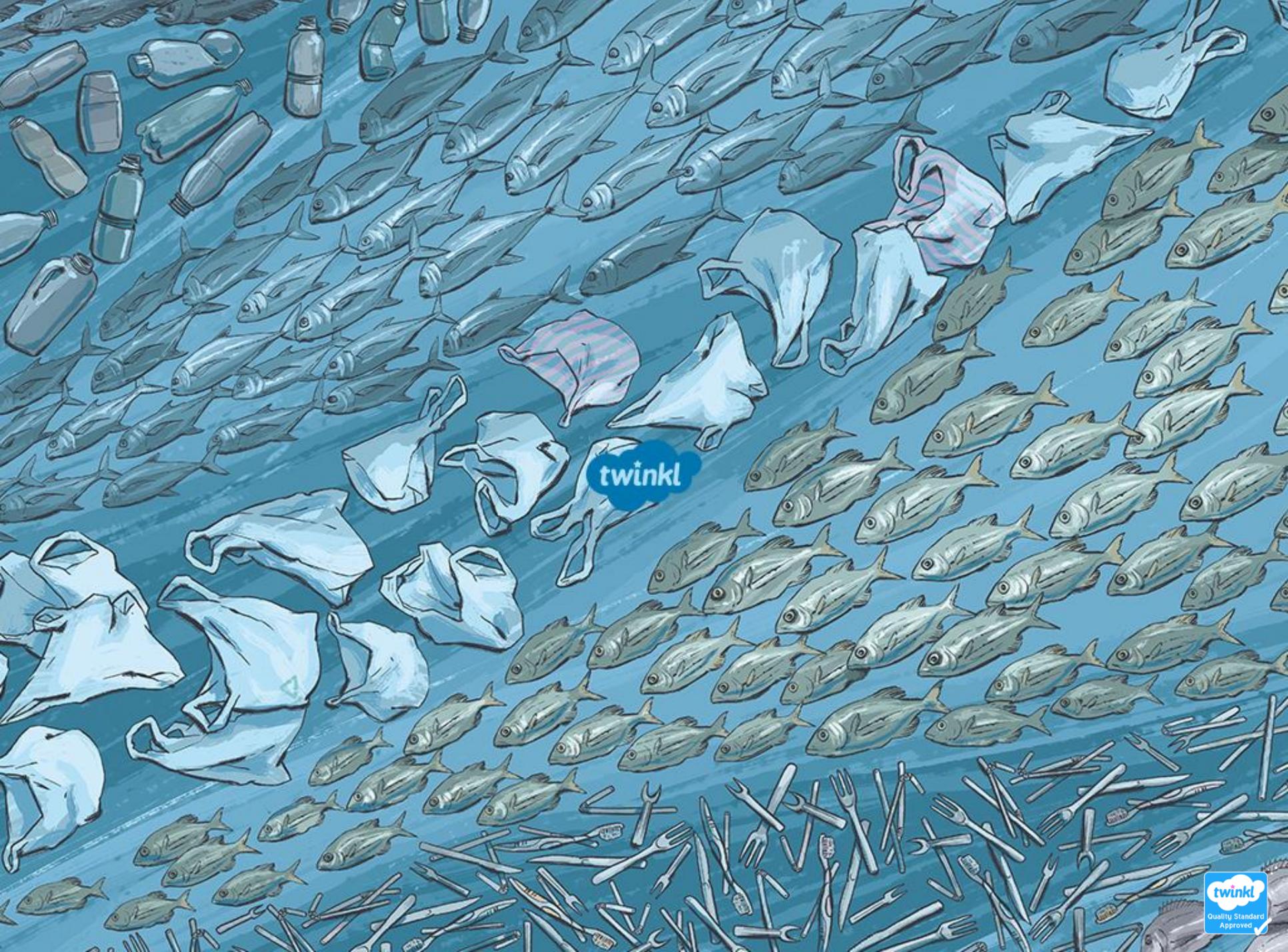


Clean-up operations can cost huge amounts of money. Some people volunteer to clear rubbish from our beaches. Have you ever taken part in a litter pick?

What can we do to stop the problem of plastic?

Notes of shared ideas:

- ...



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