**Plastic hazards**

**Key Stage 1 and 2**

**NC references**

**KS1 Science**

**Working scientifically**

* using their observations and ideas to suggest answers to questions
* gathering and recording data to help in answering questions

**KS2 Science**

**Working scientifically**

* using straightforward scientific evidence to answer questions or to support their findings
* identifying scientific evidence that has been used to support or refute ideas or arguments

**Learning objectives**

Identify and describe hazards presented to natural environments and living things by plastic pollution

**Teaching ideas**

**Explore**

Look at a range of pictures of habitats without plastic pollution, eg woodland, sea, river, beach.

Ask children to annotate/ label with creatures that they might find in each habitat.

**Discuss**

Show a range of plastic items and include the 4 main plastic polluters: disposable coffee cups, plastic straws, carrier bags and single-use plastic bottles.

Ask children: Is plastic always useful?

Follow up discussion by showing images of plastic pollution in a range of habitats. Scribe children’s responses or get them to record reactions.

**Consider**

Using images of plastic pollution in a range of environments ask children to consider what impact the plastic pollution/ items could have on the environment.

For example: Creatures (specify according to the environment) could become trapped in plastic items, creatures may eat plastic and not be able to digest it.

**Recording**

Children could list hazards with the pictures or annotate pictures.

Children could sort pollution into that could that could animals or be eaten by them.

Use images to create a poster to persuade people to reduce their use of plastic and/ or recycle where necessary.

**Resources**

Plastic pollution images and/ or videos

**Next steps**

KS1 – Create posters or write persuasive pieces to encourage people to reduce, reuse, recycle plastic, highlighting the dangers of plastic pollution.

KS2- Complete further research into the impact of plastic pollution and key polluters.

Use Kids Against Plastic ‘Talk for Schools’ video, website and TED Talk to support research:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TLQN2Y4v1bI>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XWxtlqHjxvo>

<http://clearplasticuk.net>

Create presentations about the dangers of plastic pollution, persuading people to reduce, reuse, recycle plastic.