



School Library Association Information Book Award Shortlist 2020

8 to 12 years

Kids Fight Plastic

Walker Books, Martin Dorey, Tim Wesson (9781406390650)



The activities below are designed to be used at home with parents, or as gentle links to the school curriculum, easing children back into school life. Simply select activities to suit the children's interests and states of mind. Please feel free to adapt, and we will be pleased to hear of all successes.

Bookmarks)

Bunting) download the templates provided

'Flag a Fact')

Choose your favourite fact from this book, make a flag and then put it in the window for people to see.

Design an alternative cover for this book using any medium you would like.

Discussion Point – if you are virtually meeting in a group, think about the following:

Are we doing enough to fight plastic? What are you doing now? Are adults doing enough?
Whose responsibility is it?

English/Literacy

Description – creative writing

Imagine you are a plastic bottle. Describe your journey or lifecycle, from being made in the factory, to being shipped to shops, purchased, then discarded. Where do you end up? What do you see on your journey? Is it pleasant, or does it smell? Is it dark?

Newspaper report

Write a newspaper report on all the plastic which is being used in the world today and what will happen if we continue to do so. Use facts from the book to make your points.

Maths and Science

Instead of throwing away plastic water bottles, could you design and build a greenhouse from them? There are many videos showing you how to do this on the internet. Have a look at some ideas. Save yours, your neighbours', your school's unwanted plastic bottles and work out how many you would need if you made a greenhouse 3 metres x 6 metres or 5 metres x 10 metres. You can then grow plants and protect plants during the colder months.

Geography

Look at a map of the world to see the space covered by ocean. What will happen if this vast expanse is filled with plastic? Think about the animals whose home it is; what impact would it have on them?

What sports use the sea and are potentially affected by the increase in discarded plastic?

PHSE

Watch the book trailer on this page: <https://kidsfightplastic.com/>

Can you plan and buy for a plastic free meal for your family, which you then cook for them?

When you return to school, will you be able to have a zero plastic lunch?

On a walk, take along a bin bag and preferably a grabber or protective gloves and pick up all the litter you see. You will be amazed how quickly you will fill the bag. You could make a habit of this!

Ask your parent/carer if they know of local shops which allow you to take your own containers. Do they use these shops? What are the things that influence this decision?

A group of authors have set out to promote the message to reduce this waste:

<https://www.authors4oceans.org/>

Can you make a pledge for some actions you can do at home and at school to cut down on using plastic? Some of these actions will be the same, but some may be different.

Read the story *Every Starfish Matters* on the authors4oceans website. What do you think?

Some other sites to explore of children fighting plastic:

<https://www.kidsagainstplastic.co.uk/learn>

<https://friendsoftheearth.uk/plastics/plasticfree-kids>

Art/DT

At your next family birthday, or Christmas, can you make it plastic free? No balloons, no glittery or shiny wrapping paper, no disposable plastic (the harder plastic you can re-use is fine) plates or cutlery. Make some decorations without using anything plastic.

There are some examples here:

<https://www.abc.net.au/news/2018-08-09/plastic-free-low-waste-kids-party/10078066>

<https://www.mumsmakelists.com/kids-party-bag-alternatives/>

<https://www.kidsagainstplastic.co.uk/plastic-free-christmas-decorations/>