

Key Vocabulary

Continents- A continent is a large continuous mass of land conventionally regarded as a collective region.

Northern Hemisphere -The Northern Hemisphere is the part of the planet that is north of the equator.

Southern Hemisphere - The Southern Hemisphere contains most of South America, one-third of Africa, Australia, Antarctica, and some Asian islands.

Tropic of Cancer - The Tropic of Cancer, which is also referred to as the Northern Tropic, is the most northerly circle of latitude on Earth at which the Sun can be directly overhead.

Tropic of Capricorn- The Tropic of Cancer lies north of the Equator and marks the most northerly latitude at which the sun can appear directly overhead at noon.

Equator- An equator is an imaginary line around the middle of a planet or other celestial body.

Arctic Circle -he region surrounding the North Pole consists of a large ocean surrounded by land.

Great Pacific Garbage Patch (GPGP)-The Great Pacific Garbage Patch is a collection of marine debris in the North Pacific Ocean.

Geography Knowledge organiser



Is it too late to save our oceans?

Concepts: Community, responsibility, consequences and sustainability

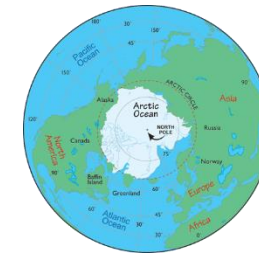
Children will: Use maps to locate the Equator, the Tropics of Cancer and Capricorn. Consider the countries and climates that surround these lines and discuss the relationships between these and the countries.

Critically study photographs – do they think these were taken close to the Equator or further away.

Look at maps, pictures and other sources to identify the Great Pacific Garbage Patch and plot it on a map of the world. Follow a line of enquiry to formulate an answer to the question (Is it too late to save our oceans?)

This critical thinking will be based on our investigations into pollution and trip to the aquarium.

Key Information



The Arctic Circle

The ice of the Arctic contains around ten percent of the world's fresh water. This giant, white, frozen reservoir reflects sunlight, helping keep the region cool. It also plays a super-important role in keeping our global climate stable.

**The Arctic is located at the northernmost part of Earth.
The name 'Arctic' comes from a Greek word meaning 'bear'.
Winter temperatures can drop below -50°C .
Polar bears live in the Arctic, near the North Pole.
In total, only about 4 million people live in the arctic.**



Did You know?

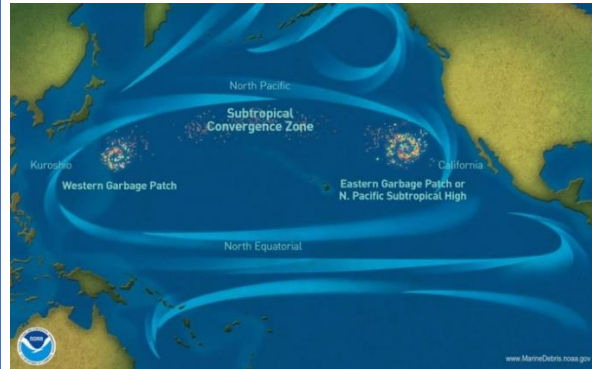


Almost half of the Great Pacific Garbage Patch is made up of abandoned or lost fishing nets.



When exposed to sunlight, plastic breaks into smaller and smaller pieces, until they are classed as microplastics.

Key Information



The Great Pacific Garbage Patch is the name for a collection of marine debris that accumulated over time due to converging ocean currents called gyres. Gyres are unique forms of ocean currents because they are large systems that move in a swirling motion, leaving marine debris caught in their path to move and be trapped in the calmer, more stable middle of the gyre. Two segments of the Great Pacific Garbage Patch exist in the Pacific Ocean: the Western Garbage patch, which is closer to Japan, and the Eastern Garbage Patch, which is closer to southern California and Mexico.

Questions and Answers

- What caused the G.P.G.P?
- What impact does it have on marine life?
- How big is The Great Pacific Garbage Patch?

Humans created the G.P.G.P by carelessly throwing plastics and other litter away. As the plastic reaches the shoreline, currents carry it out into the ocean and a convergence of currents swirl the plastics into one general area.

Studies have shown that about 700 species have encountered marine debris, and 92% of these interactions are with plastic. 17% of the species affected by plastic are on the IUCN (International Union for Conservation of Nature) Red List of Threatened Species. Floating at the surface of the Great Pacific Garbage Patch (GPGP) is 180x more plastic than marine life.

The GPGP covers an estimated surface area of 1.6 million square kilometres, an area twice the size of Texas or three times the size of France.

Did You Know?

The Great Pacific Garbage Patch was discovered in 1997.

It is composed of an estimated 3.6 trillion pieces of plastic.

The GPGP continues to expand daily.

Approximately 1.15 to 2.41 million tonnes of plastic rubbish enters the ocean from rivers.

