



Clean the ocean

BOX NOTICE

Name of the activity	Clean the ocean
Activity duration	1h
Material needed	Clean the ocean box, additional materials to drop in water (salt, sugar, syrup, oil, sand, etc.) and extract products from it.
Number of pupils involved (per box)	Two or three pupils per box

Step 1: Preparation

Start by laying out all the materials contained inside the box and add yours. You may ask your pupils to make hypotheses about what will mix in the water and what will not.

Step 2: Experiment step

Mix the various items with the water. Check out what happens with each of them. Check with your pupils if they were right in their hypotheses. Don't forget to mention that even though some of the items become invisible in water, it does not mean they have disappeared!

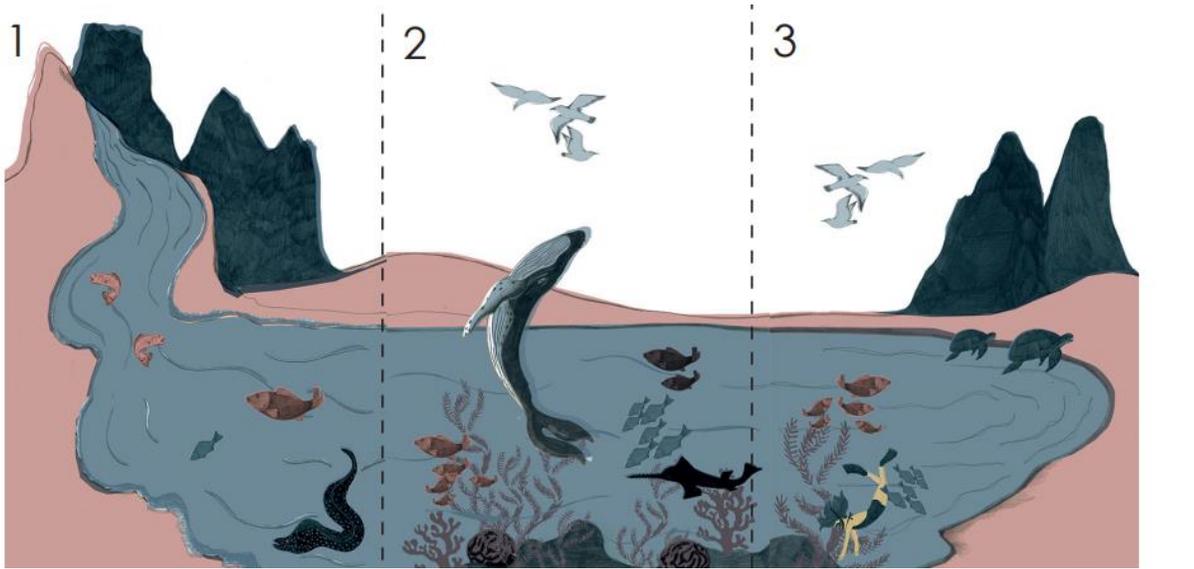
Step 3: Storytelling

Use the storytelling resources to explain to your pupils what water pollution is, how it happens, what it does and how to prevent it, using the point of view of Sylvia Earle, a famous oceanographer.

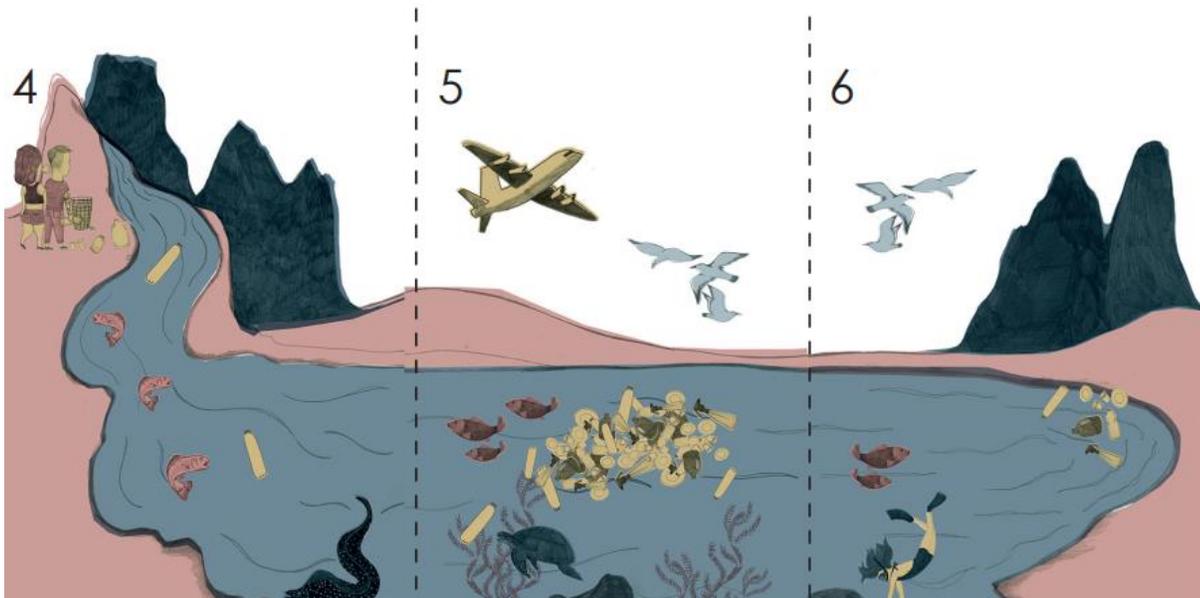


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At first, the wildlife is at peace: this is what you would expect to see when diving in the depths! There are plenty of fish, corals thrive on the seabed.



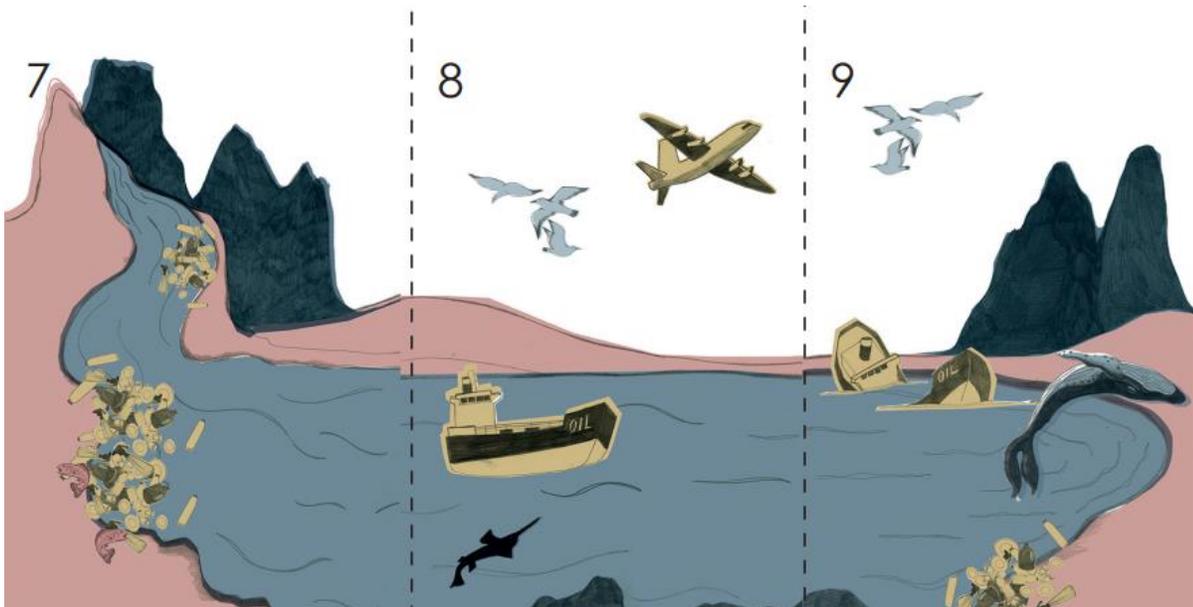
However, pollution begins to spread. Sylvia Earle (represented on page 6) is horrified by what she sees. Passer-byes litter the seas from upstream, and the trash ends up polluting the sea, which affects both the animals and the landscape.



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This is a vision from the future: there is trash everywhere, sinking boats release oil into the water, and all the sea animals are dead. Still, this is only a vision: this may not exist if people take action to avoid it!

Step 4: Sequence 2 follow-up activity

In the second sequence, pupils are asked to imagine ways to remove the content from the water. If you are using a glass or a small basin, they may find ways to do it, but make sure to remind them how difficult it is in the sea. You may also add a bit more to the story: what would happen if people removed items from the sea? How would they do it? Do you think we can go back to how the world was in the first three panels? The goal of this activity is not to be too alarming: there is an emergency, but there are solutions: children have to do their part (put their trash in the bin, re-use when possible) and actions (such as Earth Day) and associations (Greenpeace, WWF, etc.) have been created in an attempt to save the Earth! Do not hesitate to have your pupils research some of these actions/associations at home.



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