

# HABITAT CHAT

Life's a beach



**OCEAN  
SCHOOL**  
SURFERS AGAINST SEWAGE



All Ages



10 Mins



Outdoors

Ever lifted up a stone and seen a tiny crab scurry away? Or dug a hole in the sand and had a sand hopper spring into your lap? All sorts of creatures and critters live in habitats on the beach. And the more we know about them, the more we can do to keep them safe.

### Do

- Take a walk around the beach together.
- Look at the sand, rocks, rockpools and tideline.

### Discuss

- What is a habitat?  
(A place where plants and animals live. Like fields, forests, deserts, and the ocean.)
- What's a micro-habitat?  
(A smaller, specific place where plants, animals and insects live. Like a tree, a cave or a rock pool.)
- What's an ecosystem?  
(A community of animals, plants, creepy crawlies and their various habitats.)
- How do people change coastal ecosystems?  
(By polluting them, by building on them, by creating too much waste, etc.)
- What happens when one part of an ecosystem changes?  
(For example, when pollution means some creatures can't live there anymore, it makes it harder for the other creatures to live there.)

### Know it all

- Find a bunch more habitat facts [here](#).

### Prepare

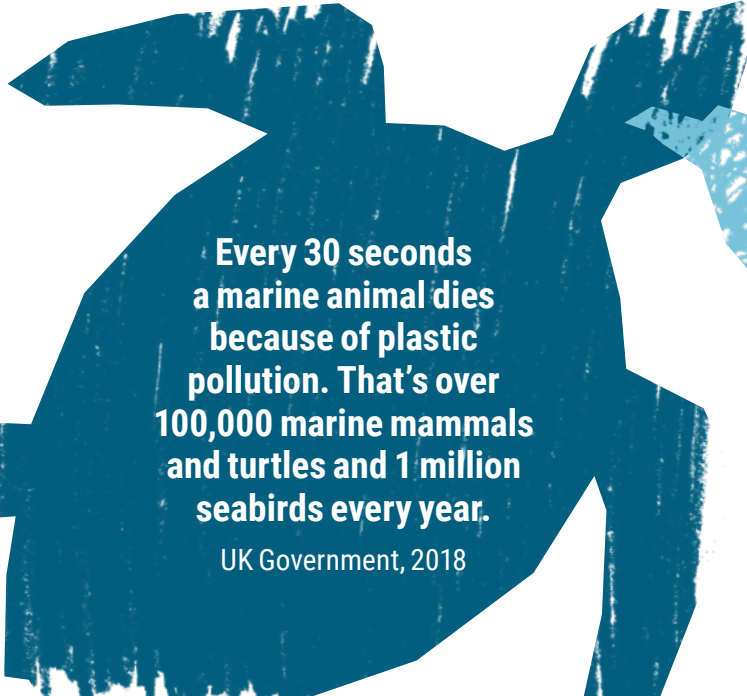
- Curiosity and imagination.

### Learn

- The types of habitats and ecosystems.
- Where to find them on the coast.
- How people affect them.
- How people can protect them.

### Act

- Now you know all about habitats and ecosystems, you can help protect them. Tell your friends and family what you've learned and what we need to do to stop them getting disturbed or polluted.



**Every 30 seconds a marine animal dies because of plastic pollution. That's over 100,000 marine mammals and turtles and 1 million seabirds every year.**

UK Government, 2018



# GET THE MOST FROM OCEAN SCHOOL

Habitat Chat is an Explore activity, all about getting active and investigating critical issues. For a full Ocean School journey, we'd recommend doing a Connect exercise first, to help you feel closer to the sea and get things off to a chilled start. And then once you've done the Explore task, finishing with a Protect activity to put everything you've learned into action.



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