



The Great Plastic Debate

Plastic Facts and Opinions (1)



- Brits are increasingly rolling up their sleeves to tackle plastic pollution, with UK households on average putting equal amounts of litter in their recycling bin and their rubbish bin every week. (British Science Association)
- Plastic is durable, versatile and cheap to produce. (British Science Association)
- We have a responsibility, every one of us. We may think we live a long way from the oceans, but we don't. (David Attenborough)
- 62 percent of surveyed UK audiences say they wanted to make changes in their lives to reduce pollution of our oceans. (BBC)
- Less than a fifth of all plastic is recycled (National Geographic)
- The DRS (Deposit Return Scheme) in Germany has resulted in 97% recycling rate (The Guardian)
- If plastic is so bad, how come we have been using it for so many years? (Dora Bushel)
- Making things from plastic is popular because there are many different types and it can be made in to all sorts of shapes, colours and sizes. (Newsround)
- The first synthetic plastic - plastic made entirely from man-made materials - was created over 100 years ago. (Newsround)
- Plastics are man-made and can be produced from natural materials like coal and oil. (Newsround)
- More than 13 billion plastic bottles, which are used only once, are sold in Britain each year. That's 200 bottles for every single person. Only half are recycled. (First News)





**SURFERS
AGAINST
SEWAGE**

The Great Plastic Debate

Plastic Facts and Opinions (2)

**PLASTIC FREE
SCHOOLS**

- A study in 2015 found that 90% of seabirds had plastic in their tummies (First News)
- UK consumers go through an estimated 13 billion plastic drinks bottles a year.
- Plastic allows transport over great distances. (British Plastics Federation)
- There are over 150 million tonnes of plastic in the world's oceans and every year one million birds and over 100,000 sea mammals die from eating and getting tangled in plastic waste. (DEFRA)
- Plastic is a wonder material. It's strong and waterproof. It's also durable and lightweight in comparison to materials like glass. (The Ethical Unicorn)
- Plastic makes it more convenient for us to grab and go. (The Guardian)
- The bulk of this plastic waste comes from the food and drink that we consume and the products we use in our households, with most of this (approximately 93%) being single-use. (SAS)
- 1 million sea birds and 100,000 marine mammals die annually from ingestion of and entanglement in marine litter. (SAS)
- In England, a 5p charge on plastic carrier bags was introduced in 2015. As a result, use of plastics bags fell by 85%. (First News)
- Approx. 8 million individual pieces of marine litter enter the sea every day. (SAS)
- Plastic packaging can help keep food hygienic and prolong shelf-life. (The Guardian)

