

## Ocean Plastic Pollution

### LÄMMITTELYTEHTÄVÄ

**I. Discuss: How long does it take for the following plastic trash to break down in the ocean? Pair the numbers to the pictures.**

<p>a plastic bag</p> 	<p>a coffee cup</p> 	<p>a plastic bottle</p> 
<p>a plastic straw</p> 	<p>a face mask</p> 	<p>a plastic cup</p> 
<p>a plastic toothbrush</p> 	<p>a disposable diaper</p> 	

200 years	500 years
450 years	450 years
500 years	30 years
500 years	20 years

## 2. Pair the texts and pictures to match.

	<p>Every year, 430 million tons of plastic waste is produced in the world.</p>	A	
	<p>Plastic waste ends up in the sea.</p>	B	
	<p>The Saimaa ringed seal gets caught in fishermen's nets.</p>	C	
	<p>Birds eat plastic waste.</p>	D	
	<p>Turtles mistake plastic bags for jellyfish and eat them.</p>	E	
	<p>Fish eat plastic waste because they mistake it for plankton.</p>	F	
	<p>When people eat fish, they are also eating microplastics.</p>	G	

# KIELITAITOTEHTÄVÄ

Fill in the blanks using the words in the box.

**fishing – avoided – harm – fish – microplastics – plastic waste – waste management – single-use products – the environment – eggs – wastewater – large pieces of plastic – aquatic ecosystems – landfills**

Plastic waste has become a grave threat to \_\_\_\_\_ worldwide. Sea animals can get stuck and suffocate on \_\_\_\_\_. Birds and \_\_\_\_\_ might mistake smaller pieces of plastic as food and eat them. \_\_\_\_\_ have been found in seabed organisms and bird \_\_\_\_\_.

The effects of microplastics on \_\_\_\_\_ and both human and animal bodies remain unknown, but due to the \_\_\_\_\_ caused by littering, the entry of slowly degradable plastics into nature must be \_\_\_\_\_.

The majority of \_\_\_\_\_ in the ocean comes from land. The biggest causes are \_\_\_\_\_ near seas and rivers, runoff water from the city streets, \_\_\_\_\_, and littering. At sea, the biggest sources of plastic waste are merchant ships, \_\_\_\_\_, and yachting.

Plastic waste creates large-scale problems in the world, which are worsened by poor \_\_\_\_\_, over-consumption and insufficient recycling. The world produces far more new plastic than is necessary: more than 430 million tons annually. Around 60 percent of the plastic produced goes into \_\_\_\_\_ such as food packaging, plastic bottles, and plastic bags.

Modified from: <https://wwf.fi/uhat/merten-muoviroska/>

**Write down the base form of each word in the box.**

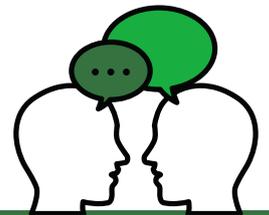
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# OPPIMINEN JA MUUTOSTOIMIJUUS

**1. Imagine that you are going on a camping trip to the archipelago. With your teacher's guidance, make a packing list for the trip.**

**2. Discuss in pairs:**

- **Which products could you keep on the list if plastics were banned?**
- **Could you go on a camping trip with the remaining products?**
- **Why would plastic products be banned at a campsite?**
- **Where will plastic waste end up if left in nature?**
- **Would all the plastic items from your packing list be sorted as plastic waste?**



## REFLEKTIO TEHTÄVÄ

**1. Discuss in pairs:**

- **How can the amount of plastic be reduced?**
- **How can you influence this?**

**2. Design a poster based on the answers. Decide the roles for the presentation of the poster.**

**3. After the presentations, discuss in pairs:**

- **How does plastic waste in the oceans affect your life?**
- **Why should we think about these things?**
- **How do you feel when you think about these things?**
- **Whose responsibility is the future of the world?**

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