

How Green Are You?



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OCEAN
CRUSADERS

You can make a difference

Welcome to the final lesson in our series.

I trust you have learnt a lot about what is in our ocean and more importantly what we can do to help them in our every day life.

Every little bit helps and even though you are one individual, you can make a difference.

When I first began this campaign, I felt overwhelmed by the issue. I was just a sailor who lived in the Whitsundays who had found a passion for the creatures, reefs and birds that live in or on the ocean.

I decided to use my skills to make a difference. I'm not a scientist, in fact I'm far from it. I'm just someone who has a passion. I used sailing to get my voice out there. I ended up a world record holder and that was pretty cool.

Using the profile I gained by getting that world record meant I had a voice. The fact that you are participating in this series of lessons is a sign that my voice is being heard.

So even though I was just a normal person, I have made a difference.

I now need your help to tell others so we can help our friends in the ocean.

In this lesson we are going to find out how green your classroom is and you can apply these lessons to your home as well.

Thank you for participating

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ian Thomson', written over a light blue rectangular background.

Ian Thomson

Founder – Ocean Crusaders

How Green is your classroom?

We are going to do a survey of how green your classroom is.

Everyone needs to be involved and you must be honest with your responses.

Write down your answers on the board or a piece of paper. (Just take note of the letter for your answer.)

At the end we will give you a score.

Good Luck!



#1: Does your classroom have Recycling Bins?

A. No

B. Yes, only paper

C. Yes, but only cans & bottles

D. Yes we recycle paper, bottles and cans

#2 What type of bag is your bin lined with?

A. Non Bio-degradable bags

B. Bio-Degradable bags

C. Compostable bags

#3 What sort of light globes does your room have?

A. Standard globes

B. Standard fluorescent

C. Energy Saving fluorescent

#4 Do you leave the lights on when you are not in the room?

- A. Yes, lights are left on all the time
- B. We turn them off only at the end of the day
- C. We turn them off every time we leave the room

#5 What do you do with your computers?

- A. We leave them on all the time
- B. We put them into sleep mode when not in use
- C. We don't have computers or we turn them off when not in use

#6 Does your school use recycled paper to print on?

A. No

B. Yes, some of the time

C. Yes, all the time

7 Is your printer set to automatically
print double sided?

A. No

B. Yes

8 What percentage of your classroom uses a re-usable drink bottle

A. Zero

B. 1-19%

C. 20-39%

D. 40-59%

E. 60-79%

F. 80-99%

G. 100%

9 How many of today's lunches are wrapped in plastic cling wrap

- A. 100%
- B. 80-99%
- C. 60-79%
- D. 40-59%
- E. 20-39%
- F. 1-19%
- G. Zero

10 Does your school use environmentally friendly cleaning products

- A. No
- B. Yes about 25% of all products
- C. Yes about 50% of all products
- D. Yes about 75% of all products
- E. Yes, all products are eco friendly

Time to add up your score!!

A. = 0 Points

B. = 1 Point

C. = 2 Points

D. = 3 Points

E. = 4 Points

F. = 5 Points

G. = 6 Points

How your score rates

- 30: Your class is perfect
- 20-29: Your class is good but there is still room to improve
- 10-20: Your class has got some work to do
- 0-10: Your class needs to start looking at ways to improve immediately

Ways to Improve

Let's now look at ways we can improve your score?

First thing we are going to look at are the 3 R's – do you remember them?

REDUCE

Reduce the amount of items you use. If you don't need it, don't use it.

REUSE

If you do need to use something, reuse it as many times as possible.

RECYCLE

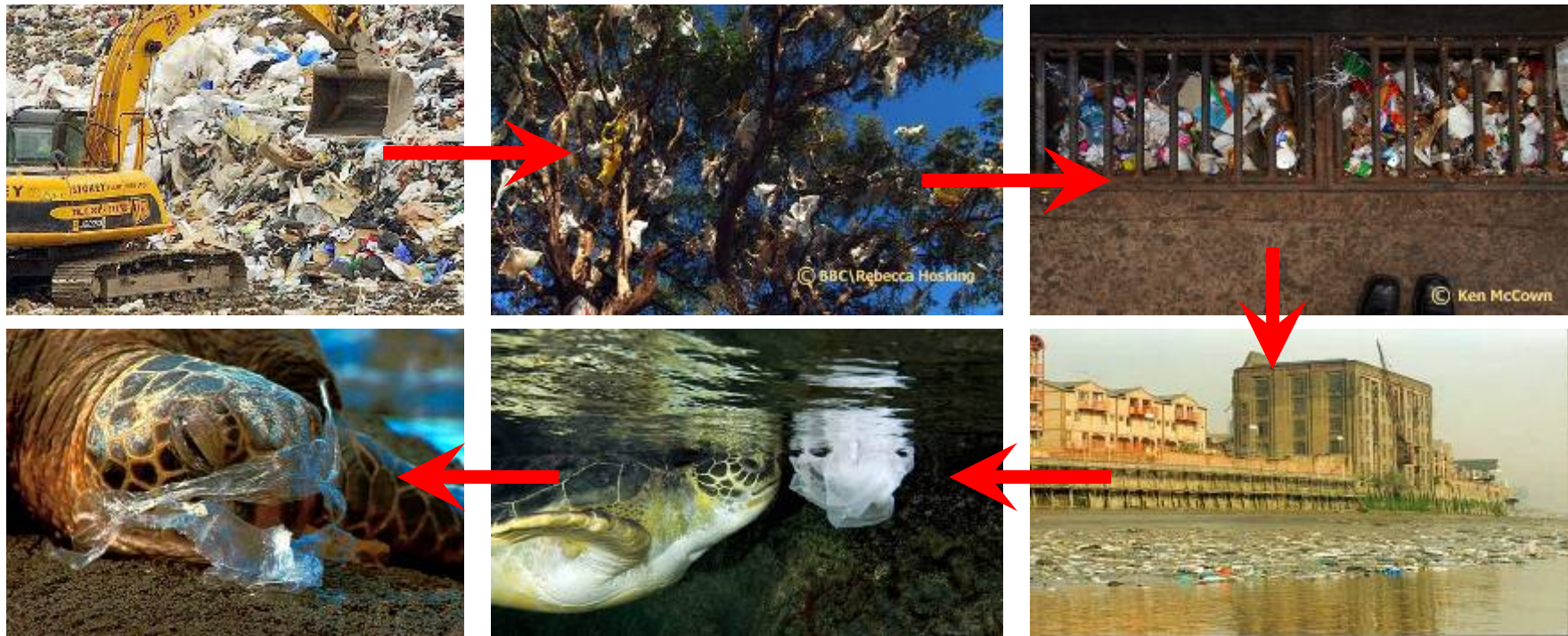
And when you are done using them, recycle them so they can be made into other things than can be reused time and time again.

Ways to Improve

If your classroom and playground doesn't have recycling bins, ask for them.

By recycling, it means that everything you recycle doesn't end up at the tip. It goes off to be made into other things.

We don't want this to happen.



Ways to Improve

Next thing is to look at the bags you are using as bin liners. Most of us use the standard non-biodegradable bags. These bags can take over 1,000 years to break up and when they do, they break into toxic chemicals or worse still, millions of pieces.

We need to all start using bio-degradable or compostable bags. That way they will eventually disappear back into the earth's surface without hurting it.

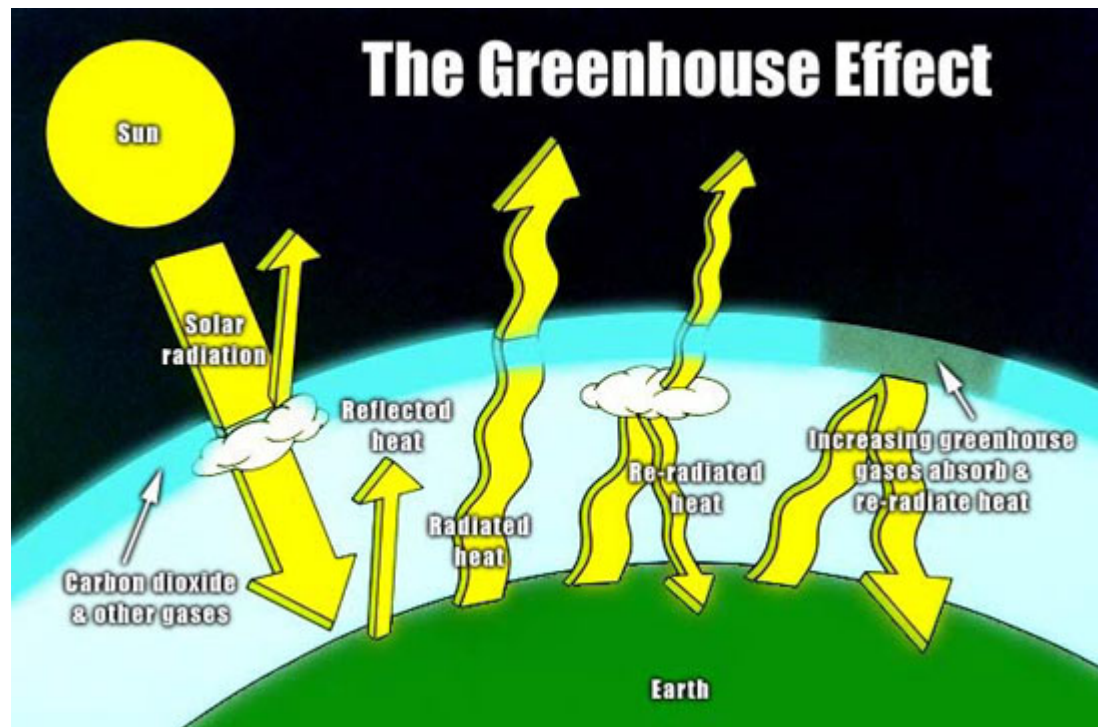
It also saves them ending up here.....



Ways to Improve

The light globes you use throughout your class, school and home have a major impact not only on your wallet but also on our environment.

By using energy efficient light globes we save on greenhouse gases, which in turn means less global warming, which we now know actually hurts our reef and the creatures living in the ocean.



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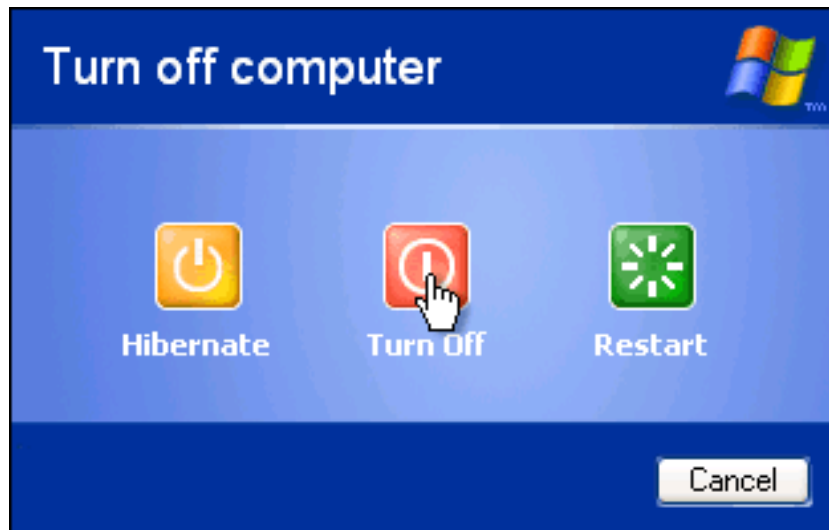


Ways to Improve

Just as changing your light globes can save energy, ensuring you switch lights and computers off when they are not in use will also help save on greenhouse gases.

In addition, it is always good to turn off all electrical items at the powerpoint overnight and especially during school holidays. An item on standby still uses quite a lot of power.

You'll save your school money, but more importantly, you will help our environment.



Ways to Improve

Schools use a lot of paper. We have already learnt to recycle the paper we do use by using the 3 R's as a practice. First we must reduce our usage.

Has your school created online forms and newsletters. Rather than printing them out, these can be viewed and submitted online saving lots of paper.

Make sure you print double-sided.
Half the paper means less trash.

If you do need to use paper, try and purchase recycled paper. It might cost a little more but it is worth it to save our environment.



Ways to Improve

Schools are actually leading the way in the use of re-usable bottles. A lot of people use them but everyone should so if you don't have a bottle, then make sure you get one.

You can fill them with any drink you like and every time you refill your bottle rather than buy a drink in plastic you are doing your bit to reduce the amount of plastic in the world.



Ways to Improve

Most people still use cling wrap to wrap their lunches up and unfortunately it is one of the convenient ways of keeping things fresh.

However there are alternatives like sealable lunch boxes and just recently a new product came available which is compostable cling wrap, meaning it breaks down when it goes into the ground.



Ways to Improve

Now we move onto cleaning products. We have touched on this subject a little bit in a few of the lessons. Basically if we keep pouring harmful chemicals down our drains, then we are harming our environment.

If those drains lead to the oceans, then it is like giving our animals a drink of chemicals.....yuk!

When you go shopping, look for environmentally friendly products. These days they are readily available so ask mum and dad to only use these.

Products include dish washing liquid, cleaners, shampoos and conditioners and even bubble bath.



Ways to Improve

There are so many ways to be eco friendly, it just takes a little bit of work.

What I want you to do now is develop a plan for your classroom or maybe even your school.

I want you to become part of the Ocean Crusaders.....





I'm so happy you took part in this program.

Out here in the ocean we rely on you to keep our home (the ocean) clean.

If everyone does their bit then we don't have to worry about eating plastic bags, or getting plastic stuck in our stomachs.

That way we can be here when you come to see us.

Thanks again and see you all soon.

Yours sincerely

Timmy the Turtle & friends.