

ST JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

BLUE PLANET – TOPIC OVERVIEW

YEAR R: SPRING 2

COVERAGE:

The “Blue Planet”

- Earth is known as the “Blue Planet” as it looks like blue ball from outer space
- The blue colour is due to the oceans which cover more than 70% of the earth’s surface
- Out of this 97.5% of the water is salty water which means it is not fit for drinking
- Earth is the only planet in our solar system to have water on it and support natural life

The oceans & seas

- There are just 5 oceans in the world but over 100 seas
- the Atlantic Ocean, the Pacific Ocean, the Indian Ocean, the Southern Ocean, the Arctic Ocean
- The nearest ocean to the UK is the Atlantic Ocean
- Marine is a word that describes oceans and seas, where water is salty.
- The ocean currents also help move anything that floats in them. This can be sea creatures or ships

Life in the oceans

- Creatures who live in marine habitats can breathe underwater (for example, using gills) or can hold their breath for a long time and just come up to the surface every now and then for air.
- Most ocean life depends on plankton, which are tiny organisms that are all over the ocean and provide perfect meals for larger fish.
- Many of the animals are fish
- The Blue whale is the largest mammal on Earth

Pollution of the oceans

- Rubbish can be dumped carelessly by people. This rubbish finds its way around the world, pollutes the oceans and can be harmful to sea creatures. Some kinds of rubbish, such as plastic are eaten by sea creatures. This causes them lots of problems and can even kill them.
- We need to look after our planet by recycling and reducing the plastics we use.

Billy's Bucket

- Provides good associated reading

KEY LANGUAGE AND

VOCABULARY:

Planet

Earth

Blue Planet

Outer space

sea

ocean

Atlantic Ocean

marine

Salty

fish

mammal

Blue whale

seaweed

plankton

habitat

plastic

pollution

KNOWLEDGE AND FACT SHEET

Key Terms Topic Fact Sheet-Blue Planet

planet	A large object that travels around a star
Earth	It is the third planet from the sun
Blue Planet	A description of Earth as it is covered in a lot of water
outer space	The area outside the Earth's atmosphere where there are other planets and stars
sea	A large area of salt water that is surrounded by land
ocean	A very large sea
Atlantic Ocean	The second largest ocean and our nearest ocean
marine	A word that describes oceans and seas, where water is salty
salty	Something containing salt

The Earth as it looks from outer space. 70% is covered in water so it looks blue.

There are 5 oceans on Earth.

Atlantic Ocean

Marine life in salty water

We get lots of food from the sea like fish, prawns, lobster, crab

Boats sail on the oceans and catch fish for us to eat, take people on holidays or are used as transport

Key Terms Topic Fact Sheet-Blue Planet

fish	An animal that lives in water and breathes through organs called gills. They usually have pairs of fins in place of arms and legs
mammal	An animal with a backbone that feeds its young with milk produced by the mother
Blue whale	The largest animal on Earth. Like all whales, it is a mammal.
seaweed	A type of plant growing in the sea
plankton	Tiny living things that float and drift in the world's oceans and seas
habitat	The home of an animal or a plant
plastic	A material used to make many objects
pollution	Something is added to our surroundings that is harmful or poisonous to living things

Animals that live in the oceans and seas or get their food from the sea

Plastic is polluting our oceans and harming wildlife

Blue whales can grow to over 30m long and feed on tiny shrimp like animals called krill.

Key Questions

1. What planet do we live on?
2. Why is it called a “Blue Planet”?
3. What is a really big sea called?
4. Can you name the oceans of the World?
5. Which is the largest ocean in the World?
6. What is the biggest mammal in the ocean?
7. What food do we get from the oceans?
8. What is the UK’s nearest ocean?
9. What is plastic causing a problem in the oceans?
10. What should people do to stop plastic

KEY SKILLS AND KNOWLEDGE

- I can say which planet we live on
- I can say why Earth is called the Blue Planet
- I can identify land and water on a map of the world
- I can identify the nearest ocean to the UK on a map of the world
- I can say why the oceans are important
- I can name some animals that live in the oceans and seas
- I can say what food we get from the ocean
- I can say why throwing rubbish in the ocean is a problem
- I can suggest how to reduce rubbish in the ocean

ENRICHMENT:

Good clip showing many different types of sea animal
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/clips/zx676sg>