

## Y5 - Why do oceans matter?

Throughout the topic, children will:

- Describe the water cycle.
- Describe how the ocean is used for human activity.
- Explain how the ocean helps to regulate the Earth's climate and temperature.
- Identify the Great Barrier Reef as part of Australia.
- Describe the benefits of the Great Barrier reef.
- Describe how humans impact the oceans and the consequences of this.
- Explain some actions that can be taken to help support healthy oceans.
- Explain which data collection method would be best for marine fieldwork and why.
- Collect data using a tally chart, photographs and a sketch map.
- Safely navigate the fieldwork environment.
- Make suggestions for how to improve a marine environment.
- Present data using a tally chart and pie chart.

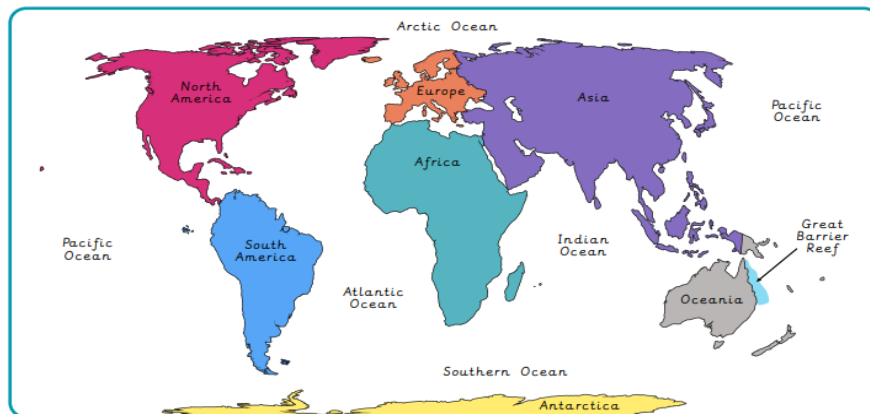
Ways to support a healthy ocean:

- Trying to avoid buying single-use plastics.
- Recycling any plastics where possible.
- Only buy what you need.
- Buying second-hand.
- Re-using or re-purposing items.
- Teaching others about the ocean.
- Only buy the seafood you need.
- Trying to use natural fertilisers in gardens.
- Walking or cycling if you can.



Why are oceans important?

- They are used for trading between countries.
- Ocean currents influence our weather.
- They provide food and jobs.
- They are used for fun activities.
- They give us ingredients for medicine.
- They absorb carbon dioxide and warm our planet.
- Coral reefs act as a buffer to natural disasters.
- Coral reefs are home to a quarter of our marine species.



## Vocabulary

**acidification**— The process of making something acidic.

**atmosphere**— Layer of gases that surrounds the Earth. The air. It gives us oxygen to breathe, keeps us warm and is where our weather happens.

**biodegradable**— When something naturally breaks down and returns to nature.

**buffer**— Something that prevents something else from being harmed or prevents two things from harming each other.

**coral bleaching**— A process which turns coral white, losing its colour.

**coral reef**— A large rock structure in the ocean formed by corals.

**decompose**— Organic material that breaks down from larger pieces into smaller, microscopic pieces that can be used to help other life grow.

**disposable**— Made to be thrown away after use.

**ecology**— The study of how living things on Earth interact with the environment around them.

**ecosystem**— A community of interacting organisms (living and non-living) and their environment.

**erosion**— Tiny pieces of the Earth's surface are worn away and moved from one place to another usually caused by moving water or wind.

**geology**— The study of physical features and the history of the Earth.

**habitat**— The place where living things naturally live and grow. They have shelter and water needed for the living thing to survive.

**human footprint**— Measures the influence of humans around the Earth; the resources and products used by a human in their lifetime.

**marine**— Relating to the ocean.

**microplastics**— Tiny pieces of plastic created from plastic waste.

**natural disaster**— A natural event that causes great damage or loss of life, e.g. earthquake, floods, hurricane.

**ocean current**— The movement of a large area of seawater driven by the wind, gravity and water density.

**Overfishing**—The number of fish decreases as a result of extreme amounts of fishing.

**policy**— A course of action chosen in order to guide people in making decisions.

**renewable energy**—Made from resources that nature will replace, like wind, water and sunshine. It doesn't pollute the air or the water.

**single-use plastic**—Plastic only used once then thrown away.

**species**— A group of similar organisms that can reproduce with one another.

**Threat**—Something likely to cause damage.

**water cycle**— Shows the continuous movement of water within the Earth and its atmosphere.

