



Harry's Ocean clean up

This is the perfect activity to teach children about the key ways our oceans are polluted, and the effects this has on the oceans' ecosystems and marine life. This can teach them the importance of recycling and the work that goes in to ocean cleanups.



What you will need:

- Water tray
- Water
- Toy boats and sea animals
- Seashells
- Cocoa powder
- Plastic bags
- Coffee grounds
- Oil
- Cotton wool balls
- Sponge
- Dish soap
- Small scrub brush such as a toothbrush
- Plastic tweezers or scoops.

What to do:

1. Fill a container half full of water.
2. Using a small jar take a sample of the clean water.
3. Add in the toys and sea shells and let your child/children play in the clean water.



4. In a bowl mix a bit of cocoa powder or coffee grinds and vegetable oil and drip this into the water, over the sea animals, sea shells and boats.
5. Let your child/children examine what has happened to the water. You can discuss pollution in the ocean and how this happens with your child. You may also want to find some images online or in books to view.
6. Shred plastic shopping bags and add these into the water and stir them around, talk about how this has polluted the water as well, and show your child/children how the animals can get stuck in the rubbish.
7. Discuss what happens when an animal gets stuck in the plastic waste.
8. Take a sample of the polluted water and place it next to the clean sample.
9. Use plastic tweezers or scoops and ask your child to remove the plastic pollution from the water, untangling any plastic from the animals (this is great for fine motor development).
10. Use cotton wool balls and sponges to try and absorb some of the oil that has spilled in the water.
11. Let your child use dish soap and a small scrub brush to clean the oil off the plastic animals.