

What's happening in the news this week?



Let's have a look at this week's poster!

5th - 11th June 2023



**Is it better to reuse or
recycle?**

Hotly Sim... PA-EFE/Shutterstock



Let's look at this week's story

Ahead of World Environment Day on 5th June, a new report from the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) has announced that countries could cut plastic pollution by 80% in fewer than 20 years. The last few decades have seen plastic production levels increase dramatically, especially single-use plastic, and waste management systems are struggling to cope. The report offers a plan of action for governments and businesses to significantly cut levels of plastic pollution.



Learn more about this week's story [here](#).
Watch this week's useful video [here](#).
This week's Virtual Picture News [here](#).



How does it make me feel?



sad	angry	happy	confused	excited	worried	shocked	afraid
despondent disconsolate dismal doleful downhearted forlorn gloomy melancholic miserable woeful wretched	aggrieved annoyed discontented disgruntled distressed exasperated frustrated indignant offended outraged resentful vexed	beaming buoyant cheery contented delighted enraptured gleeful glowing joyful	addled baffled bemused bewildered disorientated indistinct muddled mystified perplexed puzzled	animated elevated enlivened enthusiastic exhilarated exuberant thrilled	agitated anxious apprehensive concerned disquieted distraught distressed disturbed fretful perturbed troubled uneasy	astonished astounded disconcerted distressed dumbfounded horrified staggered startled stunned surprised	alarmed apprehensive daunted fearful frantic horrified petrified terrified

This week's story looks at events related to ...





Read through the information found below about the three strategies suggested by the UNEP for reducing plastic waste.

The 3 strategies for reducing plastic waste

Source: As outlined in the UNEP report.

1. Reuse

The report recommends promoting options such as refillable bottles, deposit programs to incentivise people to return plastic products, and packaging take-back programs. This would create the most powerful change, reducing plastic pollution by 30% by 2040.

2. Recycle

Scaling up recycling levels could reduce plastic pollution by a further 20%, according to the report. Only around 9% of plastics are recycled globally each year, with most of the rest ending up in landfill or being incinerated.

3. Use alternative materials

The use of appropriate alternative materials for single-use products such as wrappers and sachets (including switching to compostable materials that more easily break down), could reduce plastic pollution by 17% by 2040.



Pictured: Plastic litter washed up on a beach. Source: UNEP

5 facts about plastic waste

Source: Giving Compass

Only **9%** of all plastic produced is recycled.



2 million plastic bags are used every minute worldwide.

Single-use plastics are **illegal** in some parts of the world.



Every minute of every day, the equivalent of a **lorry full of plastic** is dumped into the ocean.

73% of beach litter worldwide is plastic.



Can you think of any other things you could do to help reduce plastic waste?

Resource
one



Look at the resource below, which shares examples of items we might throw away.



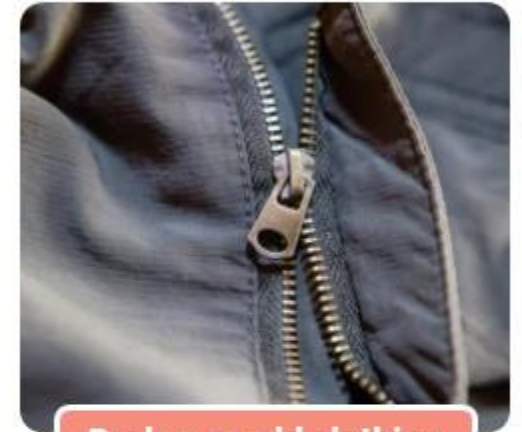
Plastic water bottle



Paper straw



Carrier bag



Broken or old clothing



Aluminium can



Cling Film



Tissue

**Which of these items can be recycled? Which can be reused?
Are there any items you could replace with a reusable one?**



Look at the resource below, which shares some information about World Environment Day.

World Environment Day is led by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and held annually on 5th June. The first World Environment Day was acknowledged in 1973, making this year its 50th anniversary. Millions of people from across the globe celebrate World Environment Day, which aims to raise awareness and encourage action for the protection of the environment.

Year	Theme
2013	Think. Eat. Save. Reduce Your Foodprint
2014	Raise your voice, not the sea level
2015	Seven Billion Dreams. One Planet. Consume with Care.
2016	Zero Tolerance for the Illegal Wildlife trade
2017	Connecting People to Nature – in the city and on the land, from the poles to the equator
2018	Beat Plastic Pollution
2019	Beat Air Pollution
2020	Time for Nature
2021	Ecosystem restoration
2022	Only One Earth

Table to show World Environment Day themes from the last ten years.



This year's World Environment Day is hosted by Côte d'Ivoire, a country in West Africa, and supported by the Netherlands. The theme is 'Solutions to plastic pollution' #BeatPlasticPollution.

Last year's event was hosted by Sweden. 175 UN Member States declared a resolution to end plastic pollution and to create an international legally binding agreement that will be ready by the end of 2024.

What are the benefits of holding an international event? Can you think of any drawbacks? How important is it that agreements to end plastic pollution are international?



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Reflection



World Environment Day is a great opportunity to learn more about our world and what we can do to help protect it.





Rule of Law

In some countries, there are laws that ban certain single-use plastics. This is to help care for and protect our environment.

Protected Characteristics



Our concern for the environment can affect how we live our life. This can form part of our beliefs. We should never be treated unfairly because of our beliefs.



Sex



Sexual Orientation



Age



Disability



Gender Reassignment



Marriage and Civil Partnership



Pregnancy and Maternity



Race



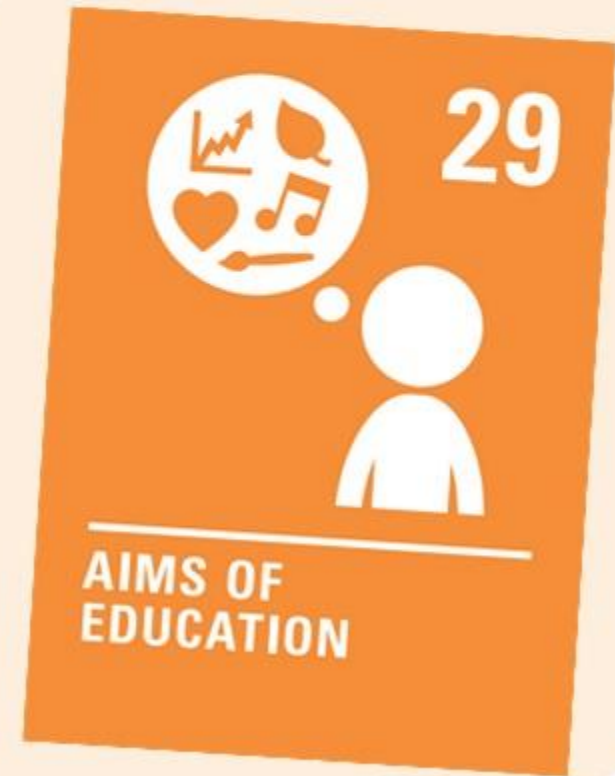
Religion and Belief



UN Rights of a Child



One of the aims of our education is to help us protect the environment. Learning more about World Environment Day can help us do this.



Useful vocabulary



Alternative

Available as another possibility or choice.

The third strategy mentioned in the report is: to use **alternative** materials.

Dramatically

By a large amount, suddenly and noticeably.

The last few decades have seen plastic production levels increase **dramatically**.

Host

A place or organisation that provides the space and other necessary things for a special event.

This year's **host** is Côte d'Ivoire, in partnership with the Netherlands.

Protect

Keep safe from harm or injury.

World Environment Day is a great opportunity to learn more about our world and what we can do to help **protect** it.

Significantly

In a way that is easy to see or by a large amount.

The report offers a plan of action for governments and businesses to **significantly** cut levels of plastic pollution.

Strategy

A plan or set of plans intended to achieve something.

The UNEP report says that the number one **strategy**, which will have a greater impact than any other strategy (including recycling), is to reuse.

Can you use them in your writing this week?

France bans short-haul flights



Pictured: Air France B777. Source: Air France @airfrance Twitter page.

France has banned domestic short flights that would take less than two-and-a-half hours by train. The rules to ban short haul flights are to help lower carbon emissions and tackle climate change. For example, air travel between Paris and other cities like Nantes, Lyon and Bordeaux will now be barred. There are stipulations that must be met, in order for the flights to be outlawed. There must be regular trains able to meet the travel requirements of passengers, who would usually fly, with the capacity to take

increased passenger numbers. Connecting flights, changing planes whilst on the same journey, will not be affected by the new rules. Politicians in the country are also working out how to reduce emissions from private jets. France is widely reported to have a fast, efficient, low-cost train system, with over 1,056 miles of dedicated high-speed lines.

Do you think this is the best way to help lower carbon emissions?

World's largest play structure opens

The largest children's play park of its kind in the world has opened at Alnwick Garden, Northumberland. Lilidorei, described on its website as 'a magical, mysterious village full of play' was thought up by Jane Percy, the Duchess of Northumberland. The project received funding from the Borderlands Inclusive Growth Deal, as it has created 50 new jobs. It has nine magical clan houses, which include goblins, fairies, pixies, hobgoblins, trolls and elves. All the inhabitants are said to be invisible! There are also interactive storytelling areas and a 26m tall six-sided tower, known as Elfwin Drin. This giant play structure has six slides, four of which are tube slides, a sliding rail, bridges, zip wires and a firefighter's pole. The Duchess said, 'Lilidorei has lived in my imagination for the past 12 years and I am delighted to bring my creative vision to life. We want to encourage children away from screens and into this magical giant playground where their imaginations can run wild. Our ambition is for Lilidorei to be accessible to all children...' The tourist attraction has said it will be supporting 'free Fridays', allowing every primary school child in Northumberland and the surrounding area to visit the attraction for free during term-time.

Pictured: Lilidorei, at Alnwick Garden on opening day. Source: Discover Northumberland @discovernland Twitter page.



Elephants enjoy having visitors



Pictured: Anjan the Asian elephant on his 5th birthday. Source: Chester Zoo @chesterzoo Twitter page.

A new study by Nottingham Trent University and Harper Adams University has been published in the journal, *Animals*, and concluded that elephants in zoos enjoy interacting with visitors. The animal behaviour experts from the universities examined more than 100 research papers to look into how visitors affected the behaviour of around 250 species in zoos. They observed that elephants enjoyed socialising more with each other and displayed fewer signs of boredom during public feeding times, when there were more people around. The world's largest land animal wasn't the only species that enjoyed human company. Animals also showing they enjoyed having visitors were penguins, jaguars, grizzly bears,

polar bears, cheetahs, servals, banteng, cockatoos and black-tailed prairie dogs. Dr Ellen Williams, a zoo animal welfare scientist at Harper Adams University, said, 'We have robust methods to measure animal welfare in zoos. Animal responses are attributed to various factors, and recognising what these may be is important to improve welfare. In elephants and birds, it was encouraging to see a reduction in those repetitive behaviours towards something more positive in the presence of people, although the absence of change in the majority of species was also really good, because it suggests enclosure design is changing to better support animals in responding to visitors.'

Last week's topic:

Has being online changed things for the better?

Overall, I think worse because we know too much and move too little. Everything is so easy we don't value it.

Petori



It has made some things better: shopping, chatting, and some things worse: online attacks, cyberbullying.

Vanitha

I love that I can call and message my family abroad!

George

I think that the internet has made the world more accessible which has made shopping easier but also closes small businesses.

Leyla

Let us know what you think about this week's news?

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TAKEHOME



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Things to talk about at home ...

- Thinking about your own use of packaging, how often do you recycle?
- When you are using or buying things, do you (or the person responsible for your shopping at home) think about the materials your food and beverages come in?

Please note any interesting thoughts or comments

Share your thoughts and read the opinions of others

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