

## **People vs Plastics**

Dear, Parents

Have you ever seen litter on the side of the road? All of that garbage migrates into animal habitats, like oceans, forests, ponds and even farms and ranches. Each day animals are dying because of the garbage that we litter. People can change that though, and it's a simple task, **don't litter**. Think of this, we wouldn't want litter in our home, same with the animals around us. In the following paragraphs, I will be talking about how plastics harm animals, and how it even harms us! But here is how us as humans can help.

Do you love animals? Each year, almost 100,000 marine animals are killed each year, by the danger of plastics. In Canada, each day almost 92,000,000 pieces of garbage are picked up on the side of the road, helping the animals, us and our earth. Marine animals are currently endangered. Animals like Dolphins, turtles, whales, sharks and seals. These plastics harm sea animals more than animals in forests, but these dangers are everywhere. Without these animals, we would lose many things.

Plastics take Millions of years to break down. It takes almost 450 years to decompose in oceans! Isn't that crazy? These plastics are still in the oceans from 400 years ago. In landfills, it takes 500 years for the plastics to break down. All the garbage you take, it takes more than a lifetime to decompose into the ground. Sometimes, if it doesn't make it into the landfill, it hurts the animals, a large amount of animals don't have enough food, which causes them to eat the plastics.

Did you know that when we eat packaged food, we are actually eating plastics, so it doesn't just hurt animals, it also hurts us. These plastics we eat are called Microplastics. Around 40% of packaged food in the world is plastic. The plastic water bottles we buy contain plastic that we consume. If we reuse those, then every time you refill it, plastic molecules will go into the water. It can lead to a variety of diseases. Mainly, plastics don't just hurt animals, it also hurts us.

Mom and Dad, in my writing you have learnt how much the plastics can hurt the environment, animals, and also us! The world needs to make a change and help our environment, animals, and us! Millions of animals are dying because of litter, there is more litter in the world, and people are eating plastics that can lead to harmful medical issues. Managing where we put garbage would make a big change! And that is what we need.

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Websites used:

- <https://earth.org/>
- <https://www.kimecopak.ca/>
- <https://science.howstuffworks.com/>
- <https://www.worldwildlife.org/>