**Global solid waste generated per year:**

2.01 BILLION TONNES

That's the equivalent weight of 13.5 MILLION BLUE WHALES

44% Green Waste
17% Paper & Cardboard
12% Plastic
5% Glass
4% Metal

The other 18% includes wood, rubber and other types of waste.

**IF ALL THIS WASTE WAS PUT ON TRUCKS, THEY WOULD STRETCH AROUND THE WORLD...**

99% of the stuff we buy is TRASHED WITHIN 6 MONTHS.

**THE RAPID RISE OF PLASTICS**

380 MILLION TONNES

Plastics don't compost, they break down into micro-plastics and spread to every corner of our planet and have seeped into soil, fish and air.

We generate the weight of more than 4,500 EIFFEL TOWERS of electronic waste each year. Only 20% of that waste is recycled, much ends up in Africa and Asia. "E-waste" can be highly toxic.

3% of this plastic ends up in the oceans, mostly due to bad waste management.

If one disposable face mask is used per day per person, COVID-19 could produce a monthly global consumption and waste of 129 BILLION FACE MASKS.

DID YOU KNOW? The total volume of water used each year to produce food that is lost or wasted is...

Food Waste

That's the equivalent to the annual flow of Russia's Volga River, or three times the volume of Lake Geneva.

DID YOU KNOW? "E-waste" can be highly toxic.

3% of this plastic ends up in the oceans, mostly due to bad waste management.

Where the plastics go

- Recycled: 9%
- Burned: 12%
- Landfill: 79%

129 BILLION FACE MASKS

List some Trash Hack from your country or local area.

Head to www.trashhack.org/schools to be inspired by students' actions against waste around the world, find sample activities and be part of the solution!


#LearnForOurPlanet
We need to urgently rethink how we, as humans, consume the world’s resources, and how that impacts the rights of other living beings on the planet. A large share of people in the world’s population is consuming too much, while others don’t have enough to meet their basic needs. The exhaustion of the world’s resources and changes to the earth’s climate by humans endanger not just our own but the survival of all other living beings.

DID YOU KNOW?

In 2020, humanity had already used up all the resources nature could generate for the year by...

- **2 BILLION PEOPLE** go hungry or undernourished
- **2 BILLION PEOPLE** are overweight or obese
- It takes **2,700L** of water to make one cotton shirt
- And **7,500L** of water to make a single pair of jeans
- **1 GARBAGE TRUCK** of textiles is wasted every second

AGRICULTURE is the biggest user of water worldwide, and irrigation for humans now claims close to **70%** of all freshwater.

ENERGY POWERS PRODUCTION

Currently, around **80%** of global energy and **66%** of electricity generation are supplied from fossil fuels, contributing approximately **60%** of the greenhouse gas emissions responsible for climate change.

MORE EFFICIENT ENERGY STANDARDS ALONE COULD REDUCE BUILDING AND INDUSTRY ELECTRICITY CONSUMPTION BY **14%**.

RENEWABLE ENERGY includes solar, wind, hydro, emits no greenhouse gas emissions from fossil fuels and reduces many types of air pollution.

In 2018 it accounted for **26%** of energy generated.

A CIRCULAR ECONOMY is one which:

- Takes
- Uses
- Throws away

A LINEAR ECONOMY IS ONE WHICH:

- Takes
- Uses
- Throws away

FAST FASHION is the mass-production of less expensive copies of the latest looks, **NOT CREATED TO LAST**. Fashion production doubled between 2000 and 2015, but **THREE OUT OF FIVE** fast fashion items END UP IN A LANDFILL.

ATTACH A PHOTO OF YOUR ACTIVITY HERE!

Head to www.trashhack.org/schools to be inspired by students’ actions against waste around the world, find sample activities and be part of the solution!


#LearnForOurPlanet

Find full teachers guide, copyright and reference details here:
A flourishing life on land is the foundation for our life on this planet. We are all part of the planet's ecosystem and we have caused severe damage to it. Promoting sustainable use of our ecosystems and preserving biodiversity is the key to our own survival.

Waste management is a universal issue that matters to every single living being in the world. And with over 90% of solid waste openly dumped or burned in low-income countries, it is the poor and most vulnerable who are disproportionately affected.

Waste of electronic equipment, used batteries and other hazardous waste, embracing informal recycling, construction and demolition waste, medical waste, municipal solid waste, and waste from household hazardous activities are all unmanaged waste fractions that pollute the land and smother the soil which affects plants and wildlife.

Over consumption and production fuel land clearing and biodiversity loss. Biodiversity refers to all living things, which with non-living things make ecosystems. All are connected and depend on each other to survive.

Trash can take a long time to decompose. Plastic bags could take 1000 years to decompose and the world uses 5 trillion of them every year.

Over 1 million species are at risk of extinction. More than 1.6 billion tonnes of carbon dioxide are generated from solid waste, which is a key cause of climate change. The Earth lost 85% of wetlands in just 300 years and 16% of its total tree cover between 2002 and 2019.

Trash fills up landfill for trash takes up large amounts of space and kills ecosystems around it. Landfill for trash takes up large amounts of space and kills ecosystems around it. Landfill for trash takes up large amounts of space and kills ecosystems around it.

Waste fractions unmanaged. Open dumping.

Attach a photo of your activity here!

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#LearnForOurPlanet
Humans, animals, and plants rely on healthy lakes, ponds, rivers, and the ocean, including for food, energy, and water. The oceans are the lungs of the earth, generating most of the oxygen we breathe and absorbing 30% of greenhouse gases, hence, acting as the main climate regulator. Fish and seafood are also the main source of protein for one out of four people in the world. But we have damaged this essential resource with pollution, overfishing, and global warming, all issues which connect to trash.

The ocean covers and represents 99% of the living space on the planet by volume. Each year, an estimated 8 million tonnes of plastic end up in the ocean. 32% of all plastic waste ends up in the sea and can take hundreds of years to break down.

Trash can easily be mistaken for food by fish and other animals and microplastics can block the mouth all the way down to the intestines and trick the animal into thinking they are full and do not need to eat, leading to starvation.

There are 228,450 known species in the ocean and as many as 2 million more that remain. A total mystery.

As much as 40% of the ocean is heavily affected by pollution, depleted fisheries, loss of coastal habitats, and other human activities. Irresponsible consumption and production are triggers to this.

Our oceans are an incredible carbon sponge. The ocean absorbs around 30% of carbon dioxide (CO₂) released to the atmosphere as a result of human activities. As CO₂ dissolves in seawater, it forms carbonic acid, decreasing the ocean's pH. This is called ocean acidification. The acidity of the ocean has increased by 26% since the beginning of the industrial era.

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It's predicted that in the year 2050 there will be more plastic than fish in the sea.

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From the People of Japan

#LearnForOurPlanet
The 6Rs of sustainability demonstrate how we can curb our consumption and reduce waste by making different choices in our daily lives:

**REDUCE**
Limit or reduce your consumption and energy and water usage.

Write or draw an example of ways we can "reduce":

**REUSE**
Purchase reusable items or donate your items.

Write or draw an example of something we can "reuse":

**RETHINK**
How do you view the natural world and its resources? Do we produce too many products?
Do you appreciate that the choices you make in your everyday life can make a difference?

Write or draw an example of how we can "rethink":

**RECYCLE**
Dispose of the product in a way that it’ll be turned into something else. For example, biowaste can be turned into valuable earth, old newspapers into new textbooks or plastic ashes into houses. Remember - not all things put in the recycle bin end up being recycled, so this is a last option!

Write or draw an example of how we can "recycle":

**REFUSE**
Don’t accept, buy, or support products or companies that harm people, animals or the environment (like plastic!).

Write or draw an example of one thing we can "refuse":

**REPAIR AND REPURPOSE**
Can you fix it? Or can you repurpose/upcycle it?

Write or draw an example of when we can "repair and repurpose":

**REDUCE**
Limit or reduce your consumption and energy and water usage.

Write or draw an example of ways we can "reduce":