

News Flash!

Brought to you by Year 4 Marine Wildlife Champions

Bishop Cornish School has been selected to take part in a special project with the Devon Wildlife Trust, to learn about how we can help to protect our oceans. Twelve children from Year 4 have been chosen to represent our school as Marine Wildlife Champions. We would like to share with you what we have learnt and how you can help too.

Our oceans are under threat from overfishing, unsustainable fishing methods and pollution!

We have been learning about some worrying issues affecting our oceans, and would like to ask for your help.

The problems:



- 1) Many fishing methods are catching and killing fish and other wildlife that **doesn't need to be caught**, such as turtles, dolphins, sharks and whales.
- 2) **Dredging destroys** everything in its path along the seabed including corals.
- 3) Large trawler nets and purse nets scoop up huge amounts of fish. They **catch everything** that goes into them, killing animals unnecessarily.
- 4) Nets often get lost at sea and are left there, drifting along and catching sea creatures in them and **killing them**.
- 5) **Overfishing – too many fish are being caught**. More and more young fish are being taken, so they don't have enough time to grow up and have babies. This means that in the future there will not be enough fish left for us to eat.

What can we all do to help?

Here are two simple things that we could all do...

- 1) Buy fish that has the blue MSC (Marine Stewardship Council) label on it.** This means that it has been sustainably caught, with fishing methods that don't take too many fish, only catch the fish that we need and leave the baby fish so that they can grow up.
- 2) Buy tuna that says 'pole and line caught' on the tin.** This makes sure that they don't catch too many tuna, the baby fish are not taken and other types of marine wildlife are not hurt.

Remember...

Look out for these labels:



Thank you for reading our important news flash. We will be writing to you again soon with news on plastic pollution.

Yours sincerely,

Luke, Hollie, Brandon, Daisy, David, Jasmine, Charlotte, Autumn, Barnabas, Josh, Evie, Tyler.

(Bishop Cornish Marine Wildlife Champions, Year 4)