

World Oceans Day

1. As pupils enter

Display the picture of **the ocean** and play your chosen music.

2. Introduction

Ask the children to think about a time they have made a trip to the sea-side. Ask them to describe what they did and what they most enjoyed. You could also display the image of the ocean and ask them to describe what they can see. If they had to describe the ocean in just three words what would those three words be?

Explain to the group that the oceans are vital to every living thing on Earth, but that they are also at risk due to a number of causes. World Oceans Day is one day a year when there is an opportunity to raise awareness of those issues and to consider that we can all do to help. While they watch the video, ask them to think about how our oceans would be different if we did nothing to protect them.

3. Play the video

The duration is 4' 39". Final words: '...and every other day too?'

4. After the video - Time to talk

You could begin with the Video questions to aid children's recall of the video and their understanding of it:

- **How much of the planet's surface is ocean?**
- **How much of the planet's water is in the ocean?**
- **How are the oceans important for keeping us alive?**
- **What are the threats facing the oceans?**
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Ask the assembly about the ways we can reduce plastic pollution and to share stories they have about caring for the environment at school or elsewhere. Make sure the children understand that although their actions may seem small they will still make a positive contribution. Finally invite the children to: **Turn to the person next to you and ask them what their favourite ocean creature is, and where it lives.**

5. Opportunity to sing

An opportunity to sing your chosen song.

Play video



6. Opportunity to reflect

Sit quietly...and think about how important the oceans are to all our lives...for water...for oxygen...for food...

And think about how the actions of humans have been affecting the oceans...and also the things we can all do to help reduce pollution... Think back to the images we saw of underwater creatures...the ocean is their home...

World Oceans Day is an opportunity to celebrate the wonderful oceans of this planet and think about how to protect them.

7. Opportunity for prayer

Begin with your usual form of address ('Dear God', 'Dear Lord', 'Let us pray', etc) and:

We thank you for World Oceans Day, and the people who work to protect our oceans on this and every other day.

Help us to appreciate the wonderful variety and wonder contained within the oceans, and guide us in helping to protect them now...and in the future..

Amen.