

Environmental Action Planner

What is our vision? What do we want to see happen?

We want our community to throw less rubbish in the ocean, and understand how their actions affect the local marine environment.

What skills do we need?

- Researching (understanding impact on local marine species)
- Written/oral communication (inform the public about the issue)
- Problem solving (design methods to reduce the problem)
- Co-operation (teamwork)
- Numeracy (quantify rubbish found)
- Physical co-ordination (rubbish collection field trip)

Who do we need to talk to?

- School principal and Board of Trustees
- Parents
- **NZ Marine Studies Centre Staff**
- **Royal Albatross Centre Staff**
- Regional & City Council staff
- Users of the local marine environment (fishers, surfers, picnickers, boaties, divers)
- Tourists
- Local "care" groups
- Local runanga

What are we going to do?

- Clean up rubbish from our local beach, park, school yard, street and investigate how that rubbish could reach the sea (see Tracking the Trash activity)
- **Visit the NZ Marine Studies Centre** to find out more about the local marine life and understand what impact rubbish can have
- **Visit the Royal Albatross Centre** and find out how seabirds are affected by rubbish in the sea
- Put together a display to educate our community about the effect of rubbish in the ocean (see Tracking the Trash activity)

Achievement Objectives

Science/Living World
AO 3.3, 4.4, 7.4
Biology AO 7.3, 8.3
Social Studies
Place & Environment
AO 2.1
Resources & Econ.
AO 2.1, 3.1

Evaluation

(did our actions lead to our vision becoming a reality)

How will we find out what people think and feel?

- Ask them - classmates, family, friends
- Design a questionnaire and survey the school or local community
- Write to the local regional council
- **Talk to scientists/wildlife guides during our visits to the NZ Marine Studies Centre and Royal Albatross Centre**

How can we make people more aware of the issue?

- Put up a rubbish display in the school reception, shopping areas, recreational centre etc.
- Publish findings in the schools newsletter, local newspaper
- Write letters to the editor of the local newspaper, local MP
- Do a presentation for school assembly, parent/community groups
- Get the community involved with "clean up" days

What will we need to know?

- How rubbish in the ocean affects the marine animals and seabirds
- How long it takes different types of rubbish to break down
- Where the rubbish comes from and how it gets to the ocean

Note: This is just a suggested format. Let your students come up with their own ideas. Then together, you and your students can decide on an action plan for your class.

For help with implementing Environmental Education contact:

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