



Photo: Scientists have found bacteria that eats some sorts of plastic.

Explore

Plastic pollution is a continuing problem for our planet. However, it remains an incredibly important and useful material.

Explore this **Plastic Pollution PowerPoint** to learn more about how it was invented, its uses and how we can help reduce plastic use. Have a look at this **How Long before It's Gone? Activity** and see if you can guess how long it takes certain items to decompose.



Write

Discussing the uses and benefits of plastics can be tricky given what we now know about the impact plastic is having on the environment. Discuss with someone else what they think the advantages and disadvantages of plastics are and try writing all the ideas in paragraphs. Use these subheadings to help you arrange your work:

Items that use plastics around your home

- advantages;
- disadvantages;
- ways we can help reduce our use of plastics.

If you get stuck, try looking at these **Powerful Plastic Facts** to help you.

Investigate

The new bacteria is an extremophile. This means it lives in extreme conditions. There are a lot of animals that live in extreme conditions too. You may want to use this **What Is an Extreme Environment? PowerPoint** to get you started.

Then, using the Internet and reference books, research an animal that lives in an extreme environment. Use what you find out to create a fact file or poster. You may like to use this **Extreme Environments Organisms Adaptations Writing Frame** as a template or just to give you ideas for your own creation.