

Fish Forage Instruction Sheet

Game Instructions:

1. Introduce your group to the topic of plastic ending up in the sea. You could ask them what kinds of problems this causes and, through discussion, introduce the issue of wildlife accidentally eating plastic.
 2. Before starting the game, an adult helper should hide the 'fish' around the area you are doing the activity (it's useful if one person introduces the topic while the other hides the fish!). Make sure to mark boundaries with your group.
 3. You are all seabirds! Split into your teams (number depending on your group size/number of containers) and choose a team name – these should be different seabirds (e.g. the gannets vs the puffins)
 4. Each team has a nest (container) – one seabird from each team should be in charge of looking after the nest (hold on to it tight!). Seabirds, make sure you know which nest is yours!
 5. Now everyone goes off on a fish forage – find the fish that have been hidden and bring them back to your nest. You want to get as many as you can – the chicks in your nest are very hungry!
 6. The game ends once all the fish have been caught. Take a look at each nest together. Which team has the most fish in their nest?
 7. Uh-oh, there's a catch! Lots of seabirds think they are eating fish, but it's plastic! Or they eat fish that are very bad for their health – lots of fish accidentally eat microplastics. Ask the groups to check their fish for any stickers/marks on them and count how many are in their nest. Oh no! These fish are actually full of nurdles! So you're nest has been contaminated.
 8. Ask the group if it's safe to feed the plastic food to their chicks? What could happen to seabirds if they eat plastic? This is a big problem in our seas!
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