

# Why Is It Important to Keep Our Oceans Clean?

9 Oceans make up over half of the Earth's surface.  
17 There are thousands of different species of animal  
27 that live in the ocean. It is important to protect  
36 the oceans to make sure that the habitats of  
45 these creatures stay safe. The ocean is also full  
54 of tiny plants which help to produce the oxygen  
64 that humans need in order to breathe. On top of  
72 this, oceans also provide food for many creatures.  
81 This means that keeping our oceans clean is very  
89 important. Sadly, lots of the plastic that people  
98 throw away ends up in the ocean. Many animals  
108 mistake this plastic for food and eat it. This can  
112 make them very poorly.



## Quick Questions



1. What do the tiny plants in the ocean produce?

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2. ...oceans also provide food for many creatures. What do you think that the word **provide** means in this sentence?

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3. Why do you think that many animals eat plastic?

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4. Use 20 words or fewer to sum up why it is important to keep our oceans clean.

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## Answers



1. What do the tiny plants in the ocean produce?

**The ocean is also full of tiny plants which help to produce the oxygen that humans need in order to breathe.**



2. **...oceans also provide food for many creatures.**

What do you think that the word **provide** means in this sentence?

**Accept any sensible definition given the context of the sentence, such as: I think that 'provide' means 'makes'.**



3. Why do you think that many animals eat plastic?

**Accept any reasonable inference, such as: I think that many animals eat plastic because it looks like the food that they normally eat so they eat it by mistake.**



4. Use 20 words or fewer to sum up why it is important to keep our oceans clean.

**Accept any reasonable summary using fewer than 20 words, such as: It is important to keep oceans clean to protect animals, their habitats and the air that humans breathe.**