

Scott Primary School - Geography - Why do oceans matter?



Important Facts

Why are oceans important?:

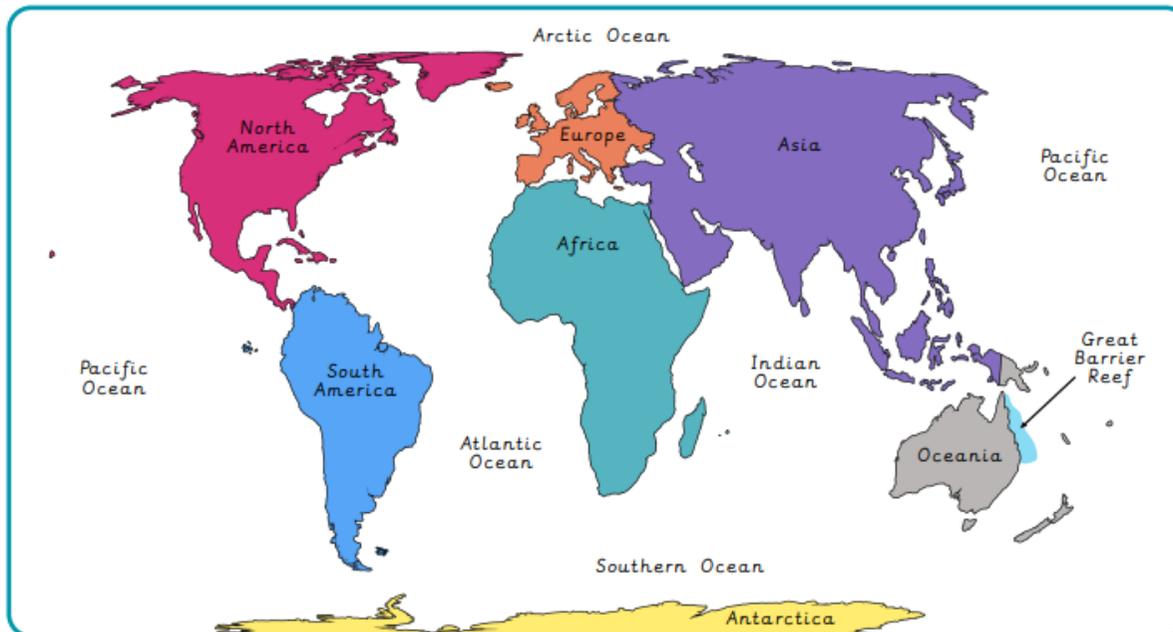
- They are used for trading between countries.
- Ocean currents influence our weather.
- They provide food and jobs.
- They are used for fun activities.
- They give us ingredients for medicine.
- They absorb carbon dioxide and warm our planet.
- Coral reefs act as a buffer to natural disasters.
- Coral reefs are home to a quarter of our marine species.

Why are our oceans suffering?

- Coral bleaching
- Overfishing
- Plastic Pollution
- Climate Change

Ways to support a healthy ocean include:

- Trying to avoid buying single-use plastics.
- Recycling any plastics where possible.
- Only buy what you need.
- Buying second-hand..
- Re-using or re-purposing items.



Key Vocabulary

ocean current	The movement of a large area of sea-water driven by the wind, gravity and water density.
coral reef	A large rock structure in the ocean formed by corals.
coral bleaching	A process which turns coral white, losing its colour.
marine	Relating to the ocean.
threat	Something likely to cause damage.
microplastics	Tiny pieces of plastic created from plastic waste.
acidification	The process of making something acidic.
overfishing	The number of fish decreases as a result of extreme amounts of fishing.
biodegradable	When something naturally breaks down and returns to nature.
Marine Protected Area	A designated geographical area of the ocean that is protected and managed.
single-use plastic	Plastic only used once and then thrown away.

