

Finn's Future: Protecting Our Oceans

Learning objective: To understand the importance of sustainability and the impact of human activity on the marine environment.

Read the text carefully, then answer the questions using full sentences. Pay close attention to the vocabulary used to explain environmental concepts.

Finn the dolphin often glides through the shimmering blue waters of the Great Reef, noticing changes in his home. Sustainability means living in a way that protects our planet for the future. Finn worries because humans sometimes leave plastic waste behind, which harms the fragile ecosystem. When we use non-renewable resources, like certain plastics made from oil, we create pollution that lasts for generations. However, there is hope! Many people are now choosing reusable items, such as metal water bottles costing £5 or canvas shopping bags, to reduce waste. Conservation is the act of protecting natural habitats so that biodiversity thrives. By making thoughtful choices, such as recycling or saving energy, humans help ensure that the oceans remain clean and vibrant. Finn knows that if everyone works together to reduce, reuse, and recycle, the coral reefs will continue to flourish. Sustainability is not just about today; it is about ensuring that the marvellous creatures of the deep have a healthy, thriving home for many years to come.

Word bank: sustainability · ecosystem · non-renewable · conservation · biodiversity · pollution

1. What are two examples of reusable items mentioned in the text that can help reduce waste? (2 marks)

2. According to the passage, what is the definition of sustainability? (2 marks)

3. Why might Finn be concerned about humans using non-renewable resources? (2 marks)

4. Based on the text, explain why the author describes the reef as a 'fragile' ecosystem. (2 marks)

5. Do you believe that individuals can make a significant difference to the health of the ocean? Justify your answer using evidence from the text. (3 marks)

Draw: Draw a poster for Finn that shows the difference between a polluted ocean and a sustainable, thriving reef. Include labels for the items you have drawn.



Extension challenge: Compare and contrast the effects of using single-use plastic versus sustainable alternatives. What might happen to the marine food chain if the biodiversity of the reef continues to decline? Justify your prediction using geographical reasoning.