

Plastic Times



Lesson 1

This week, you will be writing a newspaper report using a CNN documentary for inspiration. Today, you will watch that documentary and gather the information you need for your report.

N.B. Have your sets of evidence and 5 Ws worksheets printed out before the lesson starts. Always save your annotated interactive whiteboard files.

Introduction (30 mins)

Watch the short project introduction lesson 1 video to give the project some context. Next, give out the pieces of evidence from the lesson 1 resource folder, one piece per table. Each pupil will also need a **5 Ws** worksheet. The pieces of evidence are as follows:

1. Maps of Midway Island
2. Images of birds, plastic in the ocean
3. Newspaper articles about plastic
4. Infographics on 5 Gyres
5. Midway Island fact file

Using the IWB file, explain how they will be examining the evidence, like a journalist, and making notes on their investigations using the **5 W's** worksheet to work out what the story is all about. Perhaps using an [online timer](#), give them 4 minutes to look through a set of evidence and make notes. When those 4 minutes are up, swap evidence with the next table and start the timer again.

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Main (25 mins)

Having worked through the sets of evidence, discuss what they make of it all using their notes on the **5 Ws** worksheet. Next, watch the 14 minute documentary on Midway Island from CNN to see if they were right about the story from their investigations. *Note that the documentary states 'viewer discretion is advised'; 6 minutes in it shows a bird being opened to reveal the plastic it has eaten. We recommend you watch this beforehand, but it is fairly tame.*

Plenary (10 mins)

Discuss their reaction to the documentary. Did their investigations give them a clear idea of the story before watching the documentary? What did they think of the documentary? If there are any details that they need to add to their 5Ws worksheet, give them the chance to do so now.