

# Plastic

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## Sustainability Strategy Ideas

Create a greenhouse using plastic water bottles.

Conduct an awareness raising campaign about the length of time it takes plastic to biodegrade.

Run a challenge for a week to collect, and minimise, all the single-use plastic used, either individually or as a group. Link this to a reward system and celebrate winners using publicity campaigns.

Make plastic recycling bins larger than rubbish disposal bins to encourage their use.

Hold litter pick events and share photos of the amount of plastic collected to spread awareness.

Choose to source and use reusable or recyclable materials for group events.

Contact your STEAM Mentor to discuss additional plastic reduction strategies.

## Introduction Activity

We recommend consulting the Plastic resources from the \_\_\_\_\_ primary program for ideas on how to explore this topic.

Additionally, you could introduce the theme using this short activity:

<p><b>Activity</b></p>	<p>As of 1st April 2022, the U.K. Government introduced a plastic tax of £200 per tonne of plastic for the manufacturers or importers of plastic with less than 30% recycled content.</p> <p>This follows a charge, introduced in 2015 and increased in 2021 to a minimum of 10p, that requires all retailers in the U.K. to charge customers to access a plastic bag. Since originally being introduced in 2015, there has been a reduction in the use of single-use plastic bags of over 7.4 billion.</p> <p>A mixed approach has been taken in the #united States with several states banning single use plastic bags, whilst others have decided that such bans are illegal, effectively placing a ban on the ban.</p> <p>What are the pros and cons of each of these approaches?</p>
<p><b>Resources</b></p>	<p>Paper and pens, devices with internet access</p>
<p><b>Discussion Points</b></p>	<p>Is the issue of single-use plastic a global, governmental or individual issue?</p> <p>What single-use plastic items are essential?</p> <p>Is banning single use plastic the way to eliminate its' use?</p> <p>Do these varied approaches work or do we need a consistent, worldwide approach and, if so, what should that be?</p> <p>Can you think of any other ways to reduce the use of plastic.</p>

