

Teaching Notes

Say NO to Plastic!

Written by Ned & Shane Heaton

Illustrated by Tamzin Barber

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Recommended for children of all ages



Synopsis

Join Heidi the Piedy, Roy the Boy and Fran his Nan as they travel from their favourite beach to New York City, to talk to the world's nations about plastic pollution. Sometimes the smallest voice can have the strongest message.

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About *Say NO to Plastic!*

Join Heidi the Heidi, Roy the Boy and Fran his Nan as they travel from their favourite beach to New York City, to talk to the world's nations about plastic pollution. Sometimes the smallest voice can have the strongest message.

Use less plastic, every day.

"Be the Change." Start today.

The ocean should be clean and blue.

But who's it up to? Me and you!

An empowering tale of a wild bird and a caring boy who see a simple way to make the world a better place and set about to make it happen.

***"Positive change for our environment will come from our youngest generation. A wonderful book like this instils a sense of passion and responsibility to care for our natural world and can help kids realise the importance of sustainability."* — Robert Irwin**

Themes

Say NO to Plastic! is an inspiring story and resource that teaches children what they can do to help our planet.

Linking the story to real-life issues such as pollution and the climate crisis in a light and fun way helps readers understand what small steps they can take in their everyday life to make a positive impact.

Say NO to Plastic! inspires small actions such as picking up plastic on the beach and works its way up to speaking about environmental issues with world leaders.

The story also encourages readers to keep count of the hidden Turtle Tribe logos scattered throughout the illustrations.





About the author Ned Heaton

Ned Heaton is a kid on a mission to reduce ocean plastics. At the age of 11 he started his own bamboo toothbrush business, The Turtle Tribe, which he won awards for, including 7News UQ Young Achievers Award-Create Change, Changemaker of the Year in the Be the Change Awards, and Entrepreneur of the Year Award in the Youth Business Magazine. Featured on radio and television in Australia and around the world, Ned is the youngest CEO ever mentioned in CEO Magazine.

Learn more at www.TheTurtleTribe.com.au

About the illustrator Tamzin Barber

Tamzin Barber is a self-taught multimedia artist who loves drawing all creatures great and small. Conservation and protection of wildlife and the environment inspire her artwork. She is a freelance illustrator living in Queensland with her family, including her two cats, Sooks and Mooks.

Learn more about her work at www.TalkingAnimals.com.au.

Discussion Topics

- Read the book together, asking questions throughout.
- Look at the cover of the book together. What do you think the story might be about?
- Heidi the Piedy, Roy the Boy and his Nan are passionate about helping the environment. What are some of the things they do to keep the beaches? and oceans clean?
- Do you know of any plastic alternatives that we can use every day to contribute positively to the environment? Take a peek at p.29 and p.32 if you need some clues!
- What are some ways that you can help reduce pollution?
- What did the children think of the book? If they liked it, why did they like it? What was their favourite part? Who was their favourite character?
- How many Turtle Tribe logos did you count throughout the book?

Links to the Australian Curriculum

Say NO to Plastic! can be used as a springboard for discussions about and investigations into the environment and sustainability and the ability of one person (whatever their age) to make a difference. The story behind the book, of the eleven-year-old Ned Heaton, may inspire children to initiate projects of their own to make a difference.

Ned has a lot of useful information, including videos on his website, including information for schools. Check it out before sharing the book with children if possible. The information will enrich your discussions. www.TheTurtleTribe.com.au

Younger pre-school children could be challenged to find and identify the items on each page that belong or don't belong in the ocean or on the beach and what should happen to them instead.





Key Curriculum Areas

Learning areas: Science, Geography (sustainability) and Design Technologies

General capabilities: Creative Thinking, Ethical Understanding, and Personal and Social Responsibility

Cross-curriculum priorities: Sustainability

Discussion and extension suggestions

Science - Biological sciences

ACSSU211 *Living things live in different places where their needs are met*

Investigate animals that live in the ocean and how their needs are met.

Investigate how plastic pollution affects the ability of animals that live in the ocean to meet their needs; for example, mistaking plastic items for food, not seeing plastic items (e.g. nets and fishing lines) and being caught in them. Heidi explains the problem and asks for help.

ACSSU030 *Living things grow, change and have offspring similar to themselves*

ACSSU072 *Living things have life cycles*

Discuss and compare the life stages and life cycles of ocean animals depicted in the book.

Study the offspring of animals depicted in the book and identify ways in which the offspring resemble the parents (for example, Heidi's new baby chicks that hatch).

ACSSU044 *Living things can be grouped on the basis of observable features and can be distinguished from non-living things*

On an outing or excursion to the beach, children identify the living, once living and non-living things. While the living things may be better observed and left undisturbed, the polluting non-living things may be removed. (This can also be done virtually when reading the book.)

ACSSU073 *Living things depend on each other and the environment to survive*

Consider what might happen if the waters become too polluted to support life. Study instances where species are already being impacted by pollution and changes that can be made to improve their outcomes.





Chemical sciences

ACSSU018 *Everyday materials can be physically changed in a variety of ways*

Explore what happens to materials that are discarded and are carried by the wind, water, or negligence into our waterways and oceans.

Roy says, “But we throw it away. After it’s finished. After it’s used.” This is a bit like the attitude “out of sight, out of mind”. Then Heidi explains that “There is no away.” Discuss.

Investigate how materials can be changed to avoid pollution and endangering sea life.

ACSSU031 *Different materials can be combined for a particular purpose*

ACSSU074 *Natural and processed materials have a range of physical properties that can influence their use*

Consider ways to reduce and minimise the use of plastic by the substitution of alternate materials or by combining materials in different ways; for example, Ned used bamboo instead of plastic to make toothbrushes. What other ways can the use of plastic be reduced? What qualities does plastic have that makes it suitable for making products? What other materials can be used instead of plastic?

ACSSU046 *A change of state between solid and liquid can be caused by adding or removing heat*

Discuss how changes from solid to liquid and liquid to solid by adding or removing heat are used in the recycling process.

Earth and space sciences

ACSSU032 *Earth’s resources are used in a variety of ways*

Discuss what resources are required to make items from plastic.

Suggest more environmentally-friendly ways of making similar items.

Consider what might happen if the waters become too polluted to support life





HASS

Geography

ACHASSK031 *The natural, managed and constructed features of places, their location, how they change and how they can be cared for*

Discuss ways of caring for the environment including reducing pollution, reducing the use of plastics and choosing environmentally-friendly solutions.

ACHASSK088 *The importance of environments, including natural vegetation, to animals and people*

Discuss the effects of damage to environments on the natural vegetation, the welfare of animals and of people, including those who both live locally and distant from the area.

ACHASSK089 *The custodial responsibility Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples have for Country/ Place, and how this influences views about sustainability*

Incorporate, where possible, information about the ways in which Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples care for the environment.

ACHASSK090 *The use and management of natural resources and waste, and the different views on how to do this sustainably*

Consider how waste is managed and store, how recycled is carried out and how Earth's natural resources can be better managed.

Design and Technologies

ACTDEK001 *Identify how people design and produce familiar products, services and environments and consider sustainability to meet personal and local community needs*

Discuss items that are made from plastic and consider alternate materials that could be used to suit the purpose.

ACTDEK004 *Explore the characteristics and properties of materials and components that are used to produce designed solutions*

ACTDEK013 *Investigate the suitability of materials, systems, components, tools and equipment for a range of purposes*

Investigate materials that are used to manufacture a range of common everyday household and school items. Consider and experiment with different materials that could be used.

ACTDEK010 *Recognise the role of people in design and technologies occupations and explore factors, including sustainability that impact on the design of products, services and environments to meet community needs*

Research and investigate the stages in the design and production of goods that are made from sustainable resources. Consider the meaning of 'sustainable' in reference to resources and the effect their use has on the environment.

FUN
ACTIVITY!

DRAWING ACTIVITY

Draw a picture of yourself saying 'no' to plastic. Are you picking up plastic on the beach? Using a paper straw? Use your brightest colours!



WORD SEARCH

Can you find all the words in this word search?

N U D O F O X D N S O I X Z V
U T O L Y C H F P M R Y E O Q
Q Z L T O E D T I G H L G B L
C E P L R A K K I Y E H H Z P
R L H X L N I K Y B N W Q C U
H T I T H N K K S L U T X S J
U R N E I Q V G P W W I N V X
G U W H G K X L E G N A H C F
Y T G A D D N Z B Z N K E P N
M Y O Y R T O V U K P U I L Y
S U O I D H J A O X L H D A T
L B Q D C E I E R M P Z I S H
Q M X E N V I R O N M E N T I
S R V Z V S Z P B M B N E I V
A P I B E S F R A N I D M C N

HEIDI
FRAN
PLASTIC
BOY

PIEDY
OCEAN
ENVIRONMENT
CHANGE

NAN
DOLPHIN
ROY
TURTLE



FUN
ACTIVITY!

A-MAZE-ING HEIDI!

Help Roy find Heidi the Piedy!



