

# Group Task:

## Invent an Ocean Clean-up Machine

### Learning Intention

We are working together to design a solution to the problem of plastic litter in the sea.

### Introduction for Pupils

Scientists are worried by the amount of plastic that is building up in the ocean. Plastic takes centuries to break down, and may be eaten by animals – blocking their gut or ending up in their body. If small animals eat plastic, and are then eaten by bigger animals, more and more plastic will build up in the food chain.

Your mission, should you choose to accept it, is to invent a machine to clear up plastics from the ocean. You will have 15 minutes to brainstorm ideas, and 30 minutes to design the machine. You will then have to present your idea to your family.

### Criteria

- ◆ **The machine can float, be anchored to the sea bed, or work on a beach**
- ◆ **It should not harm marine wildlife**
- ◆ **It should use as little fuel as possible: perhaps getting power from the sun or the wind?**

### Suggestions

Spinning brushes, scooping nets, floating bins, tiny pincers to grab litter.

### Inspiration

These two real-life projects have websites that are worth showing your family

[www.seabinproject.com](http://www.seabinproject.com)

[www.theoceancleanup.com](http://www.theoceancleanup.com)

