

# Grade 6 English Language Arts

Week of November 30 – December 4

## Lesson 3: Pamphlets and Brochures – Great Pacific Garbage Patch

This lesson features text (pamphlet) that helps us to answer: **How can we care for the environment?**

Pamphlets and brochures are great ways to share information. Today, you will explore a brochure on the problem of the Great Pacific Garbage Patch. In only two pages, with three columns per page, you will learn about what it is, how it got there, what is in it, and how we can help to reduce the problem.

Pamphlets and brochures can have many non-fiction text features, with a nice balance of text and graphics:

- bold/coloured text
- captions
- charts
- diagrams
- fact boxes
- graphs
- headings
- images/photos
- lists - bulleted or numbered
- maps
- sidebars
- subheadings
- tables
- timelines
- title

Part of social responsibility is caring for the environment. In order to do this, we need to understand some of the problems and ways that kids can actually make a difference! By **Zooming In** on the subheadings in the brochure and using the **Turning it Into a Question** strategy, you can learn about the Great Pacific Garbage Patch and how you can help. The pamphlet actually *uses* questions as headings. Evidence in the pamphlet will help you to find clues and evidence to answer the questions in the headings (and on the chart in your learning guide).

You have to imagine that the pamphlet is printed and folded into three so it opens up to the inside. You can actually print it and fold it if you like. If not, here is the order the pages are read:

### Your Task

Complete the activities as you:

1. Look through the pamphlet. Notice which text features are used. Highlight them on the list in your Learning Guide. Predict the big ideas.
2. Notice you don't need to turn the headings into a question as they already are written as questions.
3. As you read the pamphlet, try to find the answers by searching for find clues and textual evidence that support your answers to the questions. Record this in your Learning Guide.



## 3.1H Pamphlets and Brochures – Great Pacific Garbage Patch

### Text Features

Look through the pamphlet. Without reading all the small print, while “looking over” the pamphlet, highlight or underline (below) the text features you notice:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• bold/coloured text</li> <li>• captions</li> <li>• charts</li> <li>• diagrams</li> <li>• fact boxes</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• graphs</li> <li>• headings</li> <li>• images/photos</li> <li>• lists - bulleted or numbered</li> <li>• maps</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• sidebars</li> <li>• subheadings</li> <li>• tables</li> <li>• timelines</li> <li>• title</li> </ul>
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### Turning It Into a Question

Read the article to try to find the answers to the questions. Use the questions as a guide to find the main ideas of this article.

<b>Heading or Subheading</b>	<b>Reading to Answer the Question</b>
How did it get there?	
What is in it?	
What problems does it cause?	
How can individuals help?	
Are there bigger clean up solutions?	

## Reflection:

This lesson features text that helps us to answer: **How can we care for the environment?**

What are the top two simple choices you learned from the pamphlet about how you can care for the environment?



## Possible Solutions?

### How Can Individuals Can Help?

- Reduce plastic use.
- Participate in beach clean-ups. This reduces waste being pulled out by tides.
- Ask your family to choose seafood that is sustainable. Look for the "Oceanwise" symbol.
- Don't purchase items from fragile ocean systems - coral jewelry, shark products, or tortoise shell accessories.
- Never flush cat litter. It contains pathogens that can harm marine life.
- Practice responsible boating, kayaking, and other recreational activities on the water. Never throw anything overboard.



# THE GREAT PACIFIC GARBAGE PATCH

### Are There Bigger Clean Up Solutions?

The **Ocean Cleanup** is developing advanced technologies to rid the world's oceans of plastic. This company has a plan, test it, and is currently revising it to make it work. ([theoceancleanup.com/about/](http://theoceancleanup.com/about/))

The **Seabin Project** is installing floating rubbish bins (with a pump and filtration center) at harbors, marinas, and other major hotspots, cleaning up garbage and oil floating in the water.

**Origin Materials** plans to manufacture plastic bottles from completely renewable biomass materials, such as sawdust and cardboard.

Great ideas! Will they work?





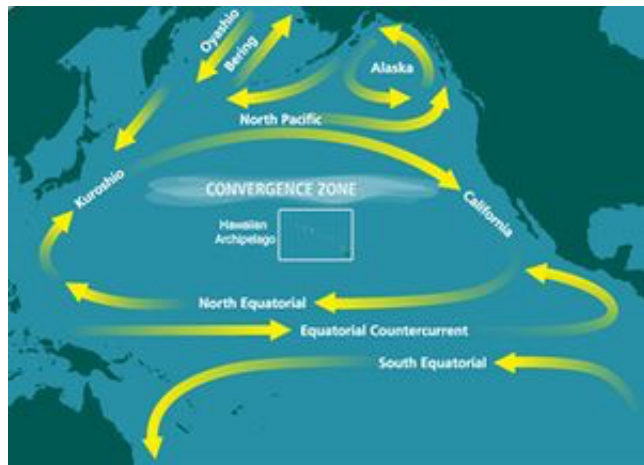
## What Is The Great Pacific Garbage Patch?

In the middle of the Pacific Ocean, half way between Hawaii and San Francisco, is the world's largest collection of floating trash.

### How Did It Get There?

Trash whirls together in this area because of a giant circular ocean current, called a gyre, that pulls in the trash we have dumped into our oceans or left on our beaches for the tide to take away.

The Patch is created in the gyre of the North Pacific Subtropical Convergence Zone.



### What Is In It?

This swirling mass is mostly plastic items, including:

- tons of trash from fishing expeditions, including fish nets
- beach picnic supplies
- plastic bags
- straws
- bottles
- even toothbrushes and flip flops!!!



### What Problems Does It Cause?

Many birds, turtles, and other sea animals go to Pacific Islands to lay their eggs and raise their young. Unfortunately, they eat the smaller pieces of plastic, thinking that they are food swimming in the ocean. They also get caught in the garbage.

For example, plastic from this patch has affected albatrosses, a bird that grabs food on the go, which leads to many of the birds ingesting -- and dying from -- plastic and other trash. On Midway Island, albatrosses give birth to 500 000 chicks every year. 200 000 of them die, many of them by consuming plastic fed to them by their parents, who confuse it for food

The United Nations Environment Program estimates that the plastic soup causes the death of one million sea birds and 10 000 sea animals every year. Some micro-invertebrates have also been found to eat tiny pieces of plastic with similar results.

