



TEACHER EVENT PACK

INTERNATIONAL DAY

OF ACTION

NOV 15TH





HELLO!

THANK YOU FOR REGISTERING FOR OUR FIRST-EVER PLASTIC CLEVER SCHOOLS INTERNATIONAL DAY OF ACTION!

This exciting event will bring together primary and secondary schools around the world – creating a united movement to stop the flow of plastic pollution!

Everything you will need is right here.

You'll have lots of support, with exciting assemblies, workshops and competitions across the day. We'll have incredible hosts, great prizes and opportunities to celebrate your inspirational work with an international community of Plastic Clever Schools.




Created by Common Seas and Kids Against Plastic, Plastic Clever Schools is an award to reduce plastic waste with students at the heart of the action. With just three simple but powerful stages – Inspire, Investigate, and Act – we help children lead the way to stopping the flow of plastic pollution in their school, their community and their future.



HOW TO TAKE PART

There are two simple steps to take part in the International Day of Action

1. If you haven't already, create your school's profile on the Plastic Clever Schools website
2. Get ready for the day with this toolkit

If you have questions or need assistance, contact us at education@commonseas.com

AGENDA

We've designed a series of activities for you to take part in. Below is our recommended agenda, but you can also work at your own pace.



Some of our sessions will be streamed live* – lookout for this icon



Other activities require you to get hands-on – this icon will show you where the action is happening!



This icon will let you know if any specific resources or equipment are required.

*Live lessons will also be available online later in the day and after the event, with the exception of the expert Q&A – please join this session if your students have questions they would like to ask.



PART 1 GET STARTED



9:15 Youth Advocate Assembly with Maria Marshall **15 mins**



9:30 Clean up! Get outside for a litter pick in your local environment **20 mins+**

PART 2 GET INSPIRED



11:00 Meet the expert: Inka Cresswell, marine biologist and wildlife filmmaker **10 mins**



11:10 LIVE Q&A **20 mins**



11:30 Plastic Audit – find out more about plastic waste at school

PART 3 GET CREATIVE



13:30 Competition announcement **5 mins**



13:35 Creative challenge **30mins+**

LET'S GO!

PART 1 GET STARTED

Assembly

Youth Advocate, Maria, will be kicking things off with an inspiring assembly about the plastic problem, and the role we can all play in solving it.



The assembly will be live streamed at 9:15.



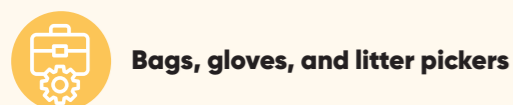
Watch it here

Clean-up litter pick

A litter pick is a great way to see plastic pollution first-hand, whilst also cleaning up part of the problem. There are lots of ways to complete your litter pick. You can start small with a group of children in the playground for a quick clean up. Or you can go big and get the whole community involved in a local park. We can't wait to see what you do! Check out [Amy and Ella's guide to litter picking](#) for more ideas and information on how to stay safe.



Complete a local clean up

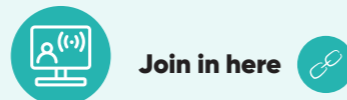


Bags, gloves, and litter pickers

PART 2 GET INSPIRED

Expert Talk and Live Q&A

Meet Marine biologist and filmmaker, Inka Cresswell. Inka will share her incredible work, her connection to the ocean, and her first-hand experiences of marine plastic pollution. This will be an online presentation at 11am, followed by a live Q&A, where your students will have the chance to learn more from Inka.

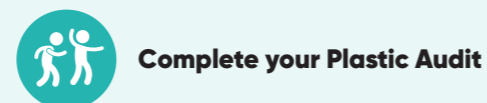


Join in here

School Audit

We have designed an easy-to-use audit tool to help identify single-use plastics in different areas of the school. Some of the data can be gathered by simply observing the site, while other insights may require input from staff, including the catering team, school business managers, or senior leaders. Encourage students to confidently engage with staff members and collect data. The audit tool provides helpful tips for gathering the required information.

The audit can take some time to complete thoroughly. If you are tight for time on this day of action, you can just pick one area to audit. Or, you could divide and conquer- sharing the work between different groups or classes.



Complete your Plastic Audit



Download the [primary school audit tool](#)



Download the [secondary school audit tool](#)

PART 3 GET CREATIVE

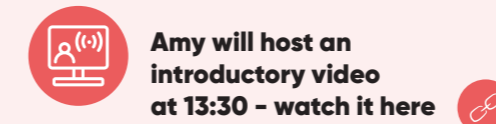
Creative Challenge Competition

At this point of the day, we want students to reflect on what they have learnt about plastic pollution and what they want to do next to tackle it. Then we want them to share that message for our creative competition. Create a poster, video, display, song, rap, poem, playground drawing, litter collage, exhibition... the options are endless.



When you submit* their work on Plastic Clever Schools, they will have the opportunity to win fantastic prizes for the whole schools in our competition. Check out the 'What's Next' section for more details on how to submit.

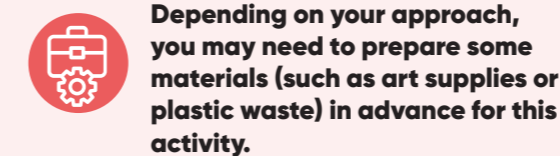
*You will have one week to submit your evidence after the event.



Amy will host an introductory video at 13:30 - watch it here



Complete your creative challenge



Depending on your approach, you may need to prepare some materials (such as art supplies or plastic waste) in advance for this activity.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

Letter to head teacher template - [Link here](#)

Day of action Poster (page 10)

International Day of Action poster Communications pack - [Link here](#)

WHAT'S NEXT?

1. Upload your International Day of Action evidence

You will need to be registered on the Plastic Clever Schools teacher platform to submit all your incredible action from the day. You can log in or create your school profile here plasticcleverschools.co.uk

Once you're signed in, simply upload your four evidence pieces.

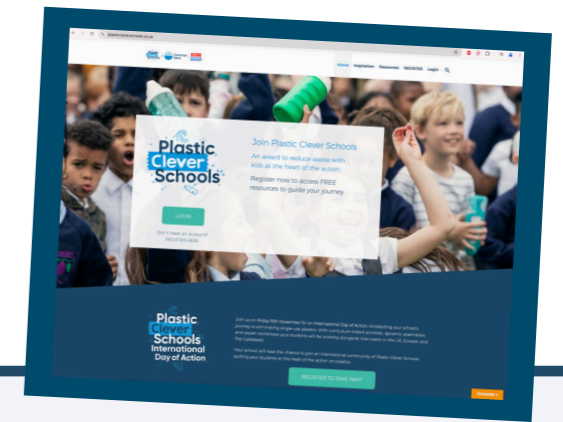
Having trouble? Check out our FAQs or get in touch for support.

2. Moving forward to achieve your Plastic Clever Schools Award

With all the amazing activities completed during the International Day of Action, you are already halfway to earning the Plastic Clever Schools Award! Keep up the momentum!

Next: Develop an action plan.

You can find all the information you need to continue your journey in the Plastic Clever Schools student workbooks and teacher toolkits [here](#).



SUPPORTING RESOURCES FOR THE CURRICULUM

Common Seas provides fully resourced lesson plans and activities that enable you to teach sustainability, within the curriculum and through project-based learning.

Developed in collaboration with a broad coalition of educators, scientists, and industry experts, we provide off-the-shelf packages for geography, science, design & technology, citizenship, and enrichment in primary and secondary schools.

The resources are aligned with the national curriculum and the DfE Strategy on Sustainability and Climate Change.

**Primary resources
(ages 5-11)**

[Click here](#)

**Secondary resources
(ages 11-16)**

[Click here](#)

**Early Years Foundation
Stage (under 5s)**

[Link Soon](#)

EXTRA RESOURCES



ABOUT THE ORGANISERS



We are expert collaborative partners, driving systemic change with commitment and a courageous spirit, to protect our ocean, our health, and our future.

Our programmes are centred on:

- Leading policy changes through partnerships with governments, providing technical expertise and convening the right stakeholders for action.
- Commissioning research and raising awareness of the human health impacts of plastics to inspire and motivate change.
- Empowering and equipping children, through their schools, to stop the flow of plastic pollution.
- We work with countries that are most affected by plastic, particularly SIDS and developing coastal economies, supporting a just transition to a future freed from plastic pollution.



Kids Against Plastic (KAP) aims to help young people (and not so young people) to learn about environmental issues such as plastic pollution and the Climate Crisis.

Through free resources, initiatives and the awesome KAP Club, we aim to:

- Raise awareness and understanding of the problems caused by plastic misuse and the impact of the climate emergency
- Encourage and support others to become 'Plastic Clever' and 'Climate Clever'.
- Empower children and young people to believe they can make a positive difference in the world.

ABOUT THE ORGANISERS

OUR BEACON SCHOOLS



Westerings Primary School,
United Kingdom



Harrison College,
Barbados



Moraitis School,
Greece



OUR YOUTH ADVOCATES

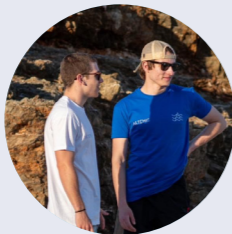


Inaaya Ijaz, 14, UK
Inaaya is a Climate Activist, Deputy Member of Youth Parliament for Redbridge Council and Chief Voice Officer at Kids Against Plastic.

A champion of greener living, climate action and tackling plastic pollution, Inaaya has won recognition for her brilliant campaigns, including securing a 'Wave Maker' grant for her work to raise awareness of marine pollution. She has motivated her schools to become Plastic Clever and has lead student action across the world with her inspirational World Ocean Day for Schools workshop.



Maria Marshall, 15, Barbados
Maria is an environmental activist and award-winning Film Maker who knows there is only one planet she will inherit. Through her YouTube channel, Little Thoughts On Big Matters, she hopes to pivot the narrative of environmental issues and to give young persons like herself and others a platform to effect change. Maria is currently UNICEF Youth Advocate for the Environment, The Healthy and Environment-friendly Youth (HEY) Ambassador 2024, Sustainable Development Goals Champion and United Nations Youth Advisory Group Member.



Bill and George, 17, Greece
Bill and George are high school students who joined an environmental school project for their IB CAS requirement. Realizing that organizing beach cleanups for students alone isn't enough, they stepped up and launched Artemis. Their mission is to turn tourists into guardians of Greece's coastlines, actively engaging them in preserving its breathtaking landscapes. They believe that by combining their passion for nature with collective action, they will create a wave of positive change for our environment, preserving it for future generations to cherish, just as they have.



OUR EXPERTS



Inka Cresswell

Inka works as a wildlife filmmaker and photographer, balancing a busy schedule of shoots for companies such as Netflix alongside ocean advocacy projects.

Her background in marine biology, coupled with an MA in Wildlife Filmmaking, gives her a unique perspective on the stories of our ocean – a skillset she is committed to using to bridge the gap between science and public awareness.



Eleni Tsolka

Eleni is the Environmental Awareness Manager for Hellenic Marine Environment Protection Association (HELMEPA), one of the most impactful environmental organizations, leading the way in protecting seas and coasts, ensuring safety at sea, and promoting sustainable development. Eleni has a degree in environmental engineering and Msc in hydrology and water resource management.

SUPPORTING PARTNERS



ECO-SCHOOLS

Is your school working towards an Eco-Schools Green Flag award? Plastic Clever Schools aligns to many of the 10 topics, including [Marine](#), [Litter](#), [Waste](#), and [Global Citizenship](#), so your day of action evidence can be used in your Green-Flag application too.

WE'RE TAKING PART IN AN INTERNATIONAL DAY OF ACTION ON PLASTIC POLLUTION!

BEFORE YOU START

Here's what you need to know!

1



Log in to/create your school profile on plasticcleverschools.co.uk (one profile per school)

2



Check your tech!

3



Our live sessions will be streamed on YouTube - make sure you can access the links in the Event Pack.

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HURRAY!

YOU ARE NOW PART OF AN INTERNATIONAL NETWORK OF SCHOOLS TAKING ACTION ON PLASTIC!

PART 3

GET CREATIVE



13:30 Competition announcement **5 mins**



13:35 Creative challenge **30mins+**

ENTER THE COMPETITION

Share evidence of your day of action on [Plasticcleverschools.co.uk](https://plasticcleverschools.co.uk) to celebrate your hard work and enter your school into our competition



THANK YOU!

Plastic
Clever
Schools

International Day of Action



Common
Seas x

KIDS
against
PLASTIC