

Let's Practice

Read and choose:

1

Every day we throw a lot of plastic into our bins. This is a problem because plastic does not change. This means that it uses a lot of space if we don't reuse it or recycle it. Did you know that half of the rubbish on our beaches is made of plastic?



2

Making plastic also uses a lot of oil. We need to use oil for two things. First we use it as the basic material for plastic and second we use oil for energy to make the plastic. Because of this it is important to try to recycle different plastics. What do you recycle?



3

Celluloid was one of the first plastics. It is made from cotton (the material which jeans are made of) and two other materials. People use celluloid to make films.

Another important plastic is nylon which people use in lots of different kinds of clothes. The word nylon comes from the names of two cities, New York and London.

Today the plastic which we use most is called polyethylene. We use it for bottles and boxes.



4

We use plastic for almost everything. Think about what is around you and what you use every day. How many plastic things can you think of?



Why do we need oil?

What do we use plastic for?

What happens to plastic when we throw it away?

What are some of the different plastics?

Read and choose true or false.

Recycling can't take the colours from plastics, so we can't use them for transparent containers.

When you put plastic bottles in recycling banks, or even in your bin, always take the bottle top off. If you take the top off, it is easier to make them smaller.

Every year in the United Kingdom, supermarkets give out 17,500,000,000 plastic bags. That is over 290 for every person in the UK.

A lot of things are made from recycled plastic. These include polyethylene bags to put in bins, PVC floors and windows, video and CD boxes, furniture and waterproof clothes.

1 Take the top off bottles when you recycle them.

2 We use recycled plastic for bin bags.

3 Recycling takes the colours from the plastic.

4 In the United Kingdom, supermarkets give out 17.5 million plastic bags a year.

5 PVC windows can be made of recycled plastic.

6 Supermarkets give people 50 bags a year.