

Knowledge Organiser—Year 4

How can we influence the future of our planets?

Vocabulary

Recycling means taking a material like the plastic in a plastic bottle or the metal in a drink can and putting it through a process so that the material can be used again instead of being wasted.

A **planet** is a large object such as Jupiter or Earth that orbits a star.

Plastic is a material that can change its shape, so many things can be made of plastic. It is made from oil and does not rot away or decompose, so it stays in the environment for a long time.

Waste is anything we throw away or get rid of, that does not get used.

Reduce means to make something smaller or use less, resulting in a smaller amount of waste.

Consumption means using, buying or eating something. For example, If we don't reduce our energy *consumption*, we will run out of fuel.

Emissions means something that has been emitted, released or discharged. In general, **emissions** consist of things like gas, liquid, heat and sound.



Key facts

Pollution is when gases, smoke and chemicals are introduced into the environment in large doses that makes it harmful for humans, animals and plants. Some forms of **pollution** can be seen, some are invisible.

Upcycling is a process by which waste materials are used to create new products of a higher value and quality than the original material.

Great Britain is the largest island in Europe. It contains England, Scotland, and Wales. Together with Northern Ireland, they make up the country of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

European Union (EU) is a union of European member countries. The EU is a political economic union of countries that are located on the European continent. Of the 50 countries in Europe, 28 belong to the European Union.

The **British Isles** lie off the north-western coast of continental Europe. They include two main islands, Great Britain and Ireland; the Isle of Man; the Hebrides; the Orkney Islands; the Shetland Islands; and many smaller islands off their coasts.

Marine pollution is a growing problem in today's world. Our ocean is being flooded with two main types of pollution: chemicals and rubbish.