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# Plastic Waste

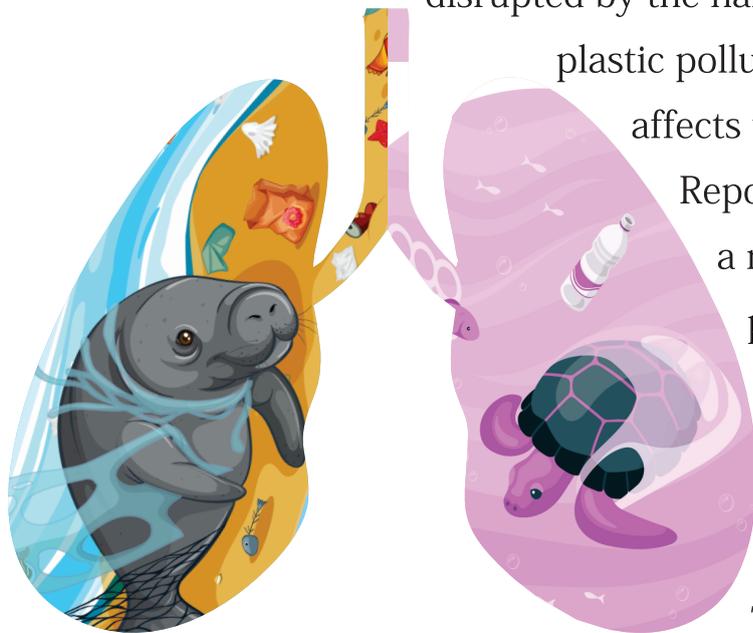
## Fighting Climate Change



## Plastic Waste - Fighting Climate Change



As Tara diligently picks up plastic waste scattered across her neighborhood park, she can't help but daydream of the breath taking Pattaya Beach in Thailand. However, her thoughts are disrupted by the harsh reality of the plastic pollution crisis that affects the beaches.



Reports indicate that a massive amount of plastic waste, including bottles and fishing nets is washing ashore, leading to detrimental effects on tourism and marine life, such as turtles and whales.

Thailand is now ranked as the sixth-largest source of plastic pollution





globally, with one million tonnes of plastic waste dumped annually. Despite the grim situation, there is a glimmer of hope.

Dhammalangkarō, a monk, is on a mission to restore Thailand's lost glory by tackling plastic waste. Upon discovering that ordinary plastic can be turned into fabric,

Dhammalangkarō urged people to donate plastic bottles to his temple. The bottles were then compressed and sent to factories to be crushed into fibers and transformed into fabric.

The fabric was then made into robes for the monks, providing employment to 30 villagers, and recycling ten tons of plastic each month.

Dhammalangkarō's efforts don't stop there. His temple also recycles foam into glue for shoes, mixes foam with cement to create plant pots, and produces buoys to collect garbage from rivers. Tara feels uplifted by the monk's tireless work and realizes that there are climate change warriors fighting against pollution. With each person doing their part, there is still hope to make a positive impact and turn the tide on plastic waste.



**Dhammalangkarō**

## New Words

1. **Pattaya**- a beach resort town in Thailand.
2. **Mesmerizing**- captivating, entrancing or fascinating.
3. **Glittering**- shining brightly with flashing points of light.

Find other new and interesting words for each other, and write their meanings in your notebooks.

## Comprehension

1. What type of plastic waste did Tara mostly find in her neighborhood park?
2. How much plastic waste is dumped in Thailand every year.
3. Who is Dhammalangkaro?
4. What innovative methods does Dhammalangkaro's temple use to deal with garbage?
5. How can each person make a difference in tackling plastic waste?

Take turns to make more questions like these above for each other and answer them.

## Prompts Pair up

### 1. Plastic Bottle Bowling

**Materials:** Ten empty plastic bottles and a soft rubber ball. Set up the empty plastic bottles as bowling pins at the end of a clear space. Take turns rolling the soft rubber ball towards the pins to knock them down. While playing, talk with your partner about how plastic waste affects the environment and why recycling is important.

### 2. Create a Plastic Art Masterpiece

**Materials:** Various plastic waste items (clean and dry), glue, and a large piece of cardboard. With your

partner, work together to create a unique art piece using the plastic waste items on the cardboard. You can make a collage, form letters or shapes, or create a scene. Be creative and use your imagination! Once you've finished your artwork, present it to the class and discuss the importance of recycling and reusing plastic waste to protect our environment.

Watch the video on the plastic waste using the QR code.



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