



Thomas is Sixteen under Sixteen's youngest member at just six years old, but don't let his age fool you as he has already been busy tackling the serious issue of marine litter. Thomas has designed his Sea is Not a Dustbin campaign to raise awareness of the damaging effects ocean litter is having on marine life. Part of his campaign is making people aware that, while they may not live next to the sea or ocean, 80% of marine litter originates on land. Finally, though Tommy's The Sea is Not a Dustbin campaign focuses on raising awareness, Thomas was also keen to make sure that everyone knows the easiest way to kick start behaviour change is by getting out there and leading by example... Read on to discover how you can help Thomas raise awareness of marine pollution even if you don't live by the coastline.

Step 1: Dustbin Dudes

The Sea is Not a Dustbin Campaign will need to have a dedicated group of Dustbin Dudes to plan and organise the campaign. Once planned, the campaign should involve the whole school.

Step 2: School Sea Scrutiny

As the campaign is aimed at raising awareness, it's a good idea to check awareness before your campaign begins. Get your Dustbin Dudes to design and distribute a questionnaire to see what your school knows about plastic pollution in our oceans already. You can ask your school to complete your questionnaire again, during Step 6, when your campaign is complete to see if your campaign has raised awareness.

Step 3: Organising Ocean Action

There are numerous ways to raise awareness about plastic pollution in our oceans, you can plan your own or use some of Tommy's tried-and-tested ideas:

- **Create Eco-Badges made out of recycled materials such as milk bottle tops. You can sell these to raise funds and awareness.**
- **Hold a Thrashion Show: it's the same as a fashion show, but all clothing is made from recycled materials. Alternatively hold a fancy-dress competition with all costumes also made from recycled materials.**
- **Use recycled materials to build sculptures of marine creatures.**

Step 4: Marine Litter Lessons

Thomas loves art and design and this is evident in the awareness campaign he planned. Creating badges, outfits, costumes and sculptures are the perfect basis for a whole series of art and design technology lessons in your school. If you want to go one step further, you could also write a story about the animal you have created from recycled materials.

Step 5: Informing and Involving (but not littering)

Tommy's awareness campaign attracted a lot of attention – he even met his Lord Mayor! The marine magic of Tommy's campaign is that the whole purpose of it is to inform people about the marine litter issue and all of Tommy's ideas to spread awareness are easy to get involved with.

Step 6: Sea The Change

If you completed a questionnaire on ocean plastic pollution during Step 2, then simply repeat the questionnaire when your campaign is complete. You can use this data to create graphs and charts to monitor whether you have raised awareness about the issue of marine litter in your school.



Step 7: The Coral Code

Thomas says: If everyone does what I'm doing, there will be no plastic pollution, what do you say?

