

THANK YOU FOR VISITING

PROBLEMS WITH PLASTIC

AT KNOWSLEY SAFARI

Every year, nearly 8 million tons of plastic waste ends up in our oceans. This waste is responsible for the death of millions of animals including, fish, aquatic mammals and sea birds.

At our Plastic Station you will have learned about the affect plastic can have on some ocean animals as well as the habitats they live in. The station also included a shopping game, where we had a look at some simple swaps, we could make at the supermarket to reduce the amount of plastic we purchase.

Below is some further information and ideas on what we can do at home to reduce the amount of plastic we use.

REFILL STATIONS

Supermarkets are responsible for the use and sale of billions of single use plastic bags, including product packaging and carrier bags. To reduce the sale and production of these single use bags, we can visit refill stations.

A refill station is a store that sells non-packaged goods including food items, cleaning products and toiletries. Shoppers are asked to bring their own containers and can use them when refilling from the stations in store. Buying directly from these stores not only reduces plastic waste, but your carbon footprint too!

REUSABLE WATER BOTTLES

Around 7.7 billion single use plastic bottles are used and discarded in the UK each year. It is estimated that each person uses 150 single use plastic bottles a year, which is roughly 3 a week. If 100 people made the swap to a reusable water bottle, we could stop 15,000 single use plastic bottles polluting our environment. A little goes a long way!

Most restaurants, coffee shops and cafes will refill water bottles for free. In fact, there is over 12,000 water refill stations listed in the UK. So not only is swapping to a reusable bottle better for the environment, it also is a cost friendly swap too!

REUSABLE BAGS

Approximately 10% of single use plastic bags end up in our oceans. This is roughly, 50-100 billion plastic a year! Animals like seabirds often mistake plastic bags for jellyfish and end up eating them. The plastic bag will then sit in their stomach giving them the sensation of being full. This then leads to the animal starving to death!

Reusable bags are also made using renewable energy sources, so they do not harm the environment during manufacturing either! So, they are great for both the environment and the wildlife!

