

**Together for our moana -  
we're shaping our future**

**21 DAY** YOUNG  
OCEAN  
EXPLORERS  
*Challenge!*

**CORE LESSON - MAKING A DIFFERENCE  
PHASE 1 - YEAR 1-3**

## NZ CURRICULUM LINKS:

Learning areas:	Achievement objectives:
<b>English</b>	Persuasive writing (letters) Oral language - asking questions, sharing ideas
<b>Mathematics and Statistics</b>	Number operations Statistics - data, graphs
<b>Science</b>	Teachers support students in beginning to observe and describe their surroundings. Students identify and describe observable features.
<b>Learning Languages</b>	Te reo Māori
<b>Social Science</b>	How can people participate as critical, active, informed, and responsible citizens? Places in New Zealand are significant for individuals and groups

MAKING A DIFFERENCE

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## Background information for teachers:

Children naturally care about the world they live in and can become frustrated when they see problems around them that they feel helpless to change. [ECO ANXIETY](#) is a growing issue. Research shows that education and taking action can help minimise this.



This lesson aims to **EMPOWER** tamariki. They see the problems in the world around them and have many great ideas for improving things. We want to give them **HOPE** for the future by showing them examples of kids and others who are making a difference.

We want to help them see that if we all work together on something we feel strongly about, we can make others aware of our ideas and, hopefully, create change. We want to allow them to join with others to make improvements for the future of our planet.

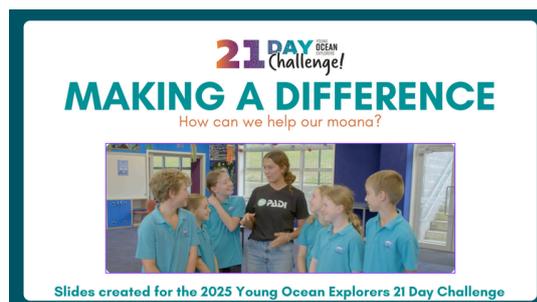
Each day of the Young Ocean Explorers 21-day challenge, we suggest that tamariki take one small action: pick up one piece of plastic each. This is to illustrate how a small action can have a **BIG EFFECT!** Log how many pieces your class picks up each day, and watch the graph grow over the weeks - this is something that really excites children: knowing they are part of a bigger group and seeing that their small action can make a difference. In this lesson, we look at other actions we can take and suggest a **COLLECTIVE ACTION** calling for greater marine protection for the moana around Aotearoa / New Zealand.

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### Slides of lesson plans

Slides of lesson plans found [HERE](#)



This is an option for teachers to teach and learn with the class on a screen to follow along together. This is aimed at all ages, so that it won't be the same as this lesson plan.

### Whakatauki

Kaua e mate wheke, mate ururoa  
Don't give in like an octopus, fight like a shark

This whakatauki encourages us not to give up.  
When fishing, a shark will fight the whole time it is on the line.  
In comparison, an octopus will surrender once it's been hooked.  
No matter how hard things get, let us fight like a shark.

(This Whakatauki is sometimes said 'Kia mate ururoa, kei mate wheke' - fight like a shark, don't give in like an octopus)

WHAKATAUKI SOURCE: [Kupu o te ra](#)

[ILLUSTRATE THIS WHAKATAUKI - printable for teachers.](#)

**MAKING A DIFFERENCE****TOGETHER FOR OUR MOANA - WE'RE SHAPING OUR FUTURE****Overview**

Start to think about ways to care for our environment.

**Learning intention**

Tamariki are learning to understand the importance of small actions and ideas, and that they can add up to make a big difference.

**Success criteria**

Students can:

- Explain how people affect the environment
- Take part in a positive action to care for the environment.

## LEARNING SEQUENCE

Based on the Inquiry model

**Inspire**

Provoke curiosity  
and wonder

**Explore/Educate**

Gather information  
Use / apply  
learning

**Activate**

Reflect and act

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## LESSON PLAN



### Inspire

⌚ Allow approximately 25 mins

#### WATCH

- [Crazy\\_plastic\\_journey.](#) Shows how rubbish dropped anywhere can end up in the moana. *Video is 2:51 minutes*



- [Kids want a marine reserve.](#) (3.23mins) How are these tamariki working to make a difference?



- [Whangarei Harbour Marine Reserve \(meet the locals\)](#) - 4 mins. It shows how students from a local school worked to get a marine reserve in their area. How long did it take them?



## MAKING A DIFFERENCE

### TOGETHER FOR OUR MOANA - WE'RE SHAPING OUR FUTURE

- REFLECT - what have we learnt? What is good about our moana? What problems are there with our Moana? What ideas do we have to care for and improve our moana?



## Educate

 Allow approximately 15 mins

- Identify one problem in our moana to focus on.
- Problem Solving - Here is a [simple video](#) showing you some problem-solving steps. Remember - some of the problems in the ocean are big and you might need help. Make a list of many possible solutions that could help with the problem you identified in the moana. Think through the solution ideas - which one do you think would work best?



### THE PROBLEM-SOLVING STEPS

- Identify the problem
- Think of the size of the problem - do you need help?
- Think of possible solutions
- Think each solution through and decide on the best one to try
- Check if the problem is solved. If it's not, you could ask someone for help or try another solution.

## MAKING A DIFFERENCE

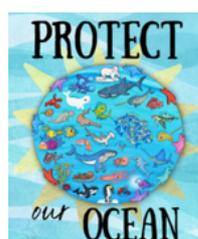
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### Activate

Timing will vary

- Find a way to share your ideas and involve others. Try making a poster/piece of art to spread awareness about an issue you're passionate about. There are many ways that you can encourage others to take care of the moana too!
- Take action - go and make your ideas happen! You may need to talk to others for help and advice. Make a start and keep going!



## DAILY ACTION



**MAKE A DIFFERENCE** for our moana - pick up at least 1 piece of kirihou / plastic each day. [Log how many pieces your class picks up on the Young Ocean Explorers website.](#)



## Let's make a difference TOGETHER!

 *Timing will vary*

This is a challenge for you throughout the 21 Day Challenge.

We think kids voices are important and powerful ... especially if there's a whole lot of us saying the same thing. We want to use your collective voice and be heard! We're heading down to the steps of Parliament in Wellington later this year to share two things with our politicians.

1. We want to have a HUGE video screen in front of parliament, showing a powerful campaign video featuring thousands of Kiwi kids. This is so our leaders start thinking about the importance of ensuring they're giving a thriving ocean to them and future generations.
2. We also want to take as many letters from your students as possible with us. We want to take a MASSIVE pile of them with us and give them personally to the Prime Minister. All of this is so we can show the importance of having a thriving ocean for future generations.

To support this, we'll ask you all to send us letters we can deliver to the Prime Minister at Parliament. This doesn't need to be long, just on one page. The letter needs to say why the ocean is important to you and why we need more ocean protection.

## MAKING A DIFFERENCE

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### What to include in your letter to Parliament:

- Address the letter to the Prime Minister
- Handwritten letter
- Add why the ocean is so important to you
- Describe WHY we need more marine protection
- You could add an ocean drawing
- Sign it off with your name and age

Send the letters to: PO Box 228, Warkworth 0941

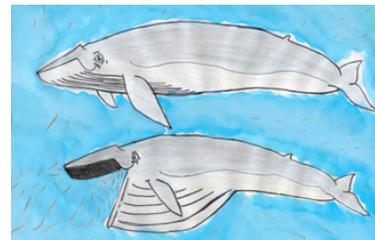
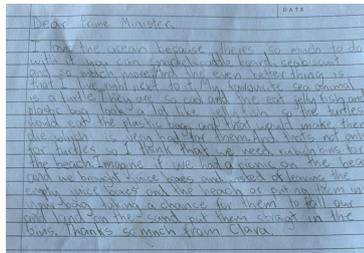
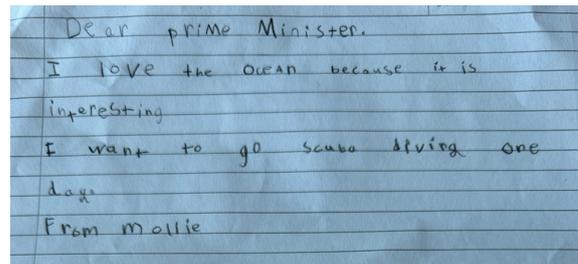
**SEND LETTERS BY 31ST OF MARCH**

### Example of letter and drawings:

Dear Prime Minister,

The ocean is important to me because I love swimming with all the beautiful animals. Our moana needs more protection so that we can all enjoy its beauty for years to come!

From,  
Aroha  
11 years old



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## EXTRA LEARNING IDEAS AND RESOURCES

**MAKE A DIFFERENCE** - Here are some suggestions on how you could make a difference, but you might have other ideas, too.

- Keep picking up at least one piece of rubbish every day.
- Encourage your family to pick up at least 1 piece of rubbish a day.
- Join a group that cares for your local environment.
- [Go snorkelling](#) and see what is in the moana near you.
- [Marine Metre squared](#) - look carefully to see what lives at a beach near you.



- Think before you take - if you are out fishing or gathering kaimoana, make sure you only take what you need.
- Write a letter to your local council or Member of Parliament about your ideas for the future of your area, and please send a copy to Young Ocean Explorers, as we would love to see what you are doing.
- Create a video to share your ideas and raise awareness
- Get together with friends and plan how you could make a start on your plan for a thriving moana.
- ENJOY the beaches, lakes, rivers, and the ocean, and appreciate what an amazing place we have - worth caring for!

### WATCH THESE EXAMPLES OF PEOPLE MAKING A DIFFERENCE

- Explore more [Young Ocean Explorer videos of people making a difference.](#)



- Here is another example of [a video made to raise awareness](#) - NZ singer Jamie McDell talks about how she is helping the endangered Maui dolphins. She wrote this song to raise awareness.