

Vocabulary	Meaning
Economic	Relating to trade, industry or money
Mineral	A substance formed naturally in the Earth
Influence	The power to have an important effect on someone or something
Gyre	a large system of rotating ocean currents
Current	A mass flow of water that moves heat energy around
Pollution	Something added to the environment that is harmful or poisonous to living things
Marine debris	The litter that ends up in the ocean, seas or other large bodies of water
Biodegradable	Able to be broken down by microorganisms
Photodegrade	Decompose by the action of light, especially sunlight
Microplastics	Extremely small pieces of plastic debris in the environment
Algal bloom	A rapid increase in algae due to excess nutrients
Hypoxia	Oxygen levels that are too low to support living organisms
Eutrophication	The excess of nutrients in a body of water
Dead Zones	Hypoxic (low-oxygen) areas in the world's oceans and large lakes, caused by excessive nutrient pollution from human activities
Environmental disaster	A specific event caused by human activity that results in a seriously negative effect on the environment
Impact	A marked effect or influence

### Key knowledge: The Blue Planet, Currents and Ocean Gyres.

The Earth is referred to as 'The Blue Planet' because 70% of its surface is covered with water and so from afar it looks blue.



Currents are mass flows of water moving heat energy from the sun between the Earth's water bodies, land masses and atmosphere.



Ocean gyres are large systems of circular ocean currents formed by global wind patterns and forces created by the Earth's rotation.



### Key knowledge: Human activity has a considerable impact on ocean activity, communities, habitats and wildlife.

