PLASTIC: PAST, PRESENT, AND FUTURE

Written by Eun-ju Kim and Ji-won Lee
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Reviewed by: Alexandra Parrington
Year 1 teacher — Cornish College

Plastic: past, present, and future is an easy to read and visually attractive text

Using a storytelling format, the text provides a clear and easy to understand picture of how we use plastic in our daily lives and how plastic is made, including the history of why plastic was developed as a material. Although it starts with a rather sad story, it quickly progresses to provide some really useful and relevant information.

The graphics and visual images are delightful and clearly demonstrate the processes involved in manufacturing. The labelled diagrams make the text available to those looking for more specific details without overwhelming the reader with complex information or technical language. The book is an excellent balance of content and accessibility.

Once the purpose and production of plastic has been clearly outlined, the text begins to explore the problem of plastic waste. Statistics are presented as facts in a way that clearly describes the issue but does not overwhelm the reader. Graphic representations of the effects of plastic waste on our oceans, wildlife and the prevalence of micro plastics provide a clear picture of the effect of plastic waste on the environment.

The next section provides some solutions to the problem of plastic waste, including suggestions of what we, as consumers, can do. The process of recycling plastic waste is clearly illustrated, described and explained enabling the reader to easily understand the process.

Teaching Notes provided by the publisher at: https://scribblekidsbooks.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/06/PLASTIC_TeachingNotes.pdf provide a range of discussion topics, activities and curriculum links which may provide a useful jumping-off point for discussion.

This text supports the generation of some great inquiry questions and would be an excellent addition to the library of anyone concerned with education for a sustainable future, specifically addressing the UN Sustainable Development Goal 12 — Responsible Consumption and Production.