

Did you know that plastic contributes more to climate change than flying? The sheer amount of plastic being produced these days, and the fact that its main ingredients are fossil fuels, means it's creating a lot of greenhouse gas emissions, even more than planes.

But where do these emissions come from?

We need to look at the whole journey of plastic, from the raw materials needed to produce it, to what happens when it gets thrown away. The largest amount is generated when new plastic is made, but the emissions continue after it has been used. It can even interfere with the planet's natural processes to capture CO2 in the ocean.

You can find out how, and explore what happens at every stage at the links below. It's quite complex, so doing the activities and reflecting is a great way to deepen your understanding.











Can you draw a diagram of the lifecycle of plastic? Remember to include all the stages from the extraction of raw materials, to production, use and disposal - and any others you can think of.

Would your diagram be a line or a circle? Why?



Reflect

Oil companies are accused of choosing profits over people and planet. Do you agree with this statement?

Think about which of these three motives are the most important to you.

>> Comment here.