






Caught in the Web: Plastic Pollution in the Pacific Ocean




- A. In Google Earth, go to the Search Panel under the "Fly to" tab.
- B. Type your school's name or address and hit search 
- C. Click "Add Placemark"  on the tool bar.
- D. **Name** your placemark with the name of your school.
- E. Use the Navigation Controls to "zoom out" until you can see the ocean.
- F. Use the Ruler tool  to **measure the distance** from your school to the ocean.





1) What is the distance from your school to the Ocean?



- G. Find the North Pacific Ocean. The small blue sailboats  show the voyage of a research vessel carrying scientists studying plastic pollution in the Pacific Ocean.
- H. Follow the voyage by clicking on the sailboats to see what the scientists found along the way.



2) Below, record information about 5 organisms the research crew observed during their voyage. You may need to find more information about each organism by following the Web links provided or by doing your own Web search.

 Day #	 Distance from land	Name one organism observed that day.	Is the organism a producer or a consumer ? (Circle one)	Is the organism a herbivore, a carnivore or an omnivore? (Circle one)	Was any plastic observed that day? If so, what type?
			Producer/Consumer	Herbivore/Carnivore/Omnivore	
			Producer/Consumer	Herbivore/Carnivore/Omnivore	
			Producer/Consumer	Herbivore/Carnivore/Omnivore	
			Producer/Consumer	Herbivore/Carnivore/Omnivore	
			Producer/Consumer	Herbivore/Carnivore/Omnivore	



3) Many animals (including fish, sea turtles, and birds) mistake plastic for food. What do you think will happen to the consumers you listed above if they accidentally eat plastic?