

# How plastic gets into the environment

## Te parakino kirihiou me te taiao

Plastic pollution harms our communities and industries

**He aha te mate?**

**What's the problem?**

Plastics are useful because they are strong and lightweight. Unfortunately these properties also mean plastic waste stays in the environment a long time and is easily transported around the globe.

**Kei whea rā?**

**Where is the plastic pollution?**

Plastics are everywhere, from mountain tops, to waters surrounding Antarctica, to remote beaches and the deepest part of the ocean.



**Ki roto i te moana?**

**How much plastic is in the ocean?**

Everyday millions of pieces of plastic find their way to the ocean. The equivalent of one garbage truck of plastics is dumped into the ocean every 38 seconds.



**Take! Kia kaha te mahi**

Look at the diagram that shows the sources and movement of plastic pollution. How can you stop plastic from getting into the environment?

HE TAURA WHIRI KOTAHIMAI ANŌ  
TE KOPUNA TAI NO I TE PU AU

From the source to the mouth of the sea, all things are joined together as one

# Plastic pollution sources and pathways

## Land Sources

Plastics can enter the environment at any stage of product manufacturing, use and disposal, and may eventually reach the ocean.

