## **Topic Plan**

#### Year 4

#### Spring 2 - 'Pollution Solution'

#### **Key Skills**

#### Report on findings from enquiries, including oral and written explanations, displays or presentations of results and conclusions.

- Use results to draw simple conclusions, make predictions for new values, suggest improvements, and raise further questions.
- Record findings using simple scientific language, drawings, labelled diagrams, keys, bar charts, and tables.
- Describe how people have been affected by changes in the environment.
- Use his/her knowledge of techniques and the functional and aesthetic qualities of a wide range of materials to plan how to use them.

#### **Key Facts**

#### It can take up to 500 years for a piece of plastic to biodegrade.

- If the level of pollution continues, by the year 2050 experts think the amount of plastic in the ocean will weigh more than the amount of fish.
- Single use plastics make up 40% of the plastic made every year.
- About eight million tonnes of plastic are dumped in the ocean each year.
- Approximately, 83% of earth's land surface has been affected by human activity, threatening plant and animal species.
- In the UK we recycle only 17% of our waste.

#### **Key Vocabulary**

- Biodegradable capable of being decomposed avoiding pollution.
- Pollution when something is added to the environment that is harmful or poisonous to living things.
- Recycle taking a material like the plastic in a plastic bottle or the metal in a drink can and putting it through a process so the material can be used again.
- Upcycle reuse (discarded objects or material) in such a way as to create a product of higher quality or value than the original.
- **Endangered** animals close to extinction.
- Extinction there aren't very many of that type of animal left in the world

#### **Key Figures/Places**

# Alexander Parkes – In 1855 he created the earliest example of plastic called Parkesine. We now know it as celluloid.

- Leo Baekeland in 1907 he created Bakelite, the first real synthetic, mass-produced plastic.
- Greta Thunberg a young activist who stands up against world leaders at their failures to address the climate crisis.

#### **Reading and Writing Links**

#### Writing:

- A set of instructions.
- Poem

### Reading – Class text for guided reading – 'The Wild Robot' by Peter Brown.

We are developing the children's ability to infer and extract information from a text within school. To support this, it is vital that the children are reading at least 5 times per week at home for 30 minutes. They should record this in their reading record and ask an adult from home to initial it.

