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WRITTEN LESSON PLAN

A LETTER FROM WILDLIFE: PLASTICS AND ANIMAL HEALTH

Module: Plastics and Health
Target group: Ages 12–15
Duration: 45 minutes

Learning objectives

- Explain two ways plastic pollution can harm wildlife.
- Distinguish evidence from imagined feelings in a creative first-person letter.
- Produce a short awareness message grounded in a researched animal case.

Materials and teacher preparation

- Teacher-selected wildlife case studies or articles
- Writing sheet; optional Padlet and Genially
- Projector and optional tablets

TEACHING PROCEDURE

Introduce the wildlife problem · 5 min

- Show an age-appropriate case of a seabird or turtle affected by plastic.
- Ask how ingestion and entanglement differ.

Research a case · 10 min

- Groups select an animal and record species, habitat, type of plastic, and documented harm.
- Require one source reference; do not invent scientific details.

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Write the animal's letter · 10 min

- Write a short first-person letter with a factual description and a request for human action.
- Mark the emotional voice as imaginative rather than a scientific claim.

Create an awareness product · 15 min

- Turn the letter into a 3-scene storyboard, narrated slides or short Genially animation.
- Include one verified fact and one practical action.

Share and reflect · 5 min

- Groups share a key message and answer: 'What action could help this animal?'

READY-TO-USE STUDENT WORKSHEET

Case-study notes

- Animal: _____
- Habitat: _____
- Plastic hazard: _____
- Evidence/source: _____

Letter starter

Dear humans, I am a _____ living in _____.

Plastic affects me when _____.

Please _____

_____.

Storyboard

- Scene 1: habitat _____
- Scene 2: problem _____

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- Scene 3: action _____

Assessment and success criteria

- Case study records accurate mechanisms of harm
- Creative text distinguishes factual information from imagined voice
- Final message proposes a relevant prevention action

Differentiation and practical guidance

- If animation is too time-consuming, produce a three-panel paper storyboard. Choose non-distressing photographs.

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