CONSERVATION CHALLENGE #1

TAKE PART - DISCUSS

RUBBER BAND EXPERIMENT

Stop and think for a moment what it would be like to be tangled up and unable to get free?
When whales, dolphins, seals and birds get tangled up in plastic strapping, nets or rubbish they don't have fingers and arms to lift it off like we do. Can you imagine how helpless creatures must feel in this situation?

The more they struggle the more tangled they get.

GET YOUR SELF A RUBBER BAND AND TRY THIS:

Take the rubber band and loop it around your thumb. Pull it across the back of your hand, and then loop it over your little finger.

Imagine you are a whale, dolphin, bird or seal that has become caught in some plastic strapping, plastic bags, netting and rubbish. Without using your other hand, any part of your body or any other object/person, try and take the rubber band off your hand.

- Are you able to get it off?
- How did it make you feel to be 'trapped'?
- Can you think of ways you could help stop marine life from getting tangled?

CONSERVATION CHALLENGE #2

TAKE PART - DISCUSS

CREATE YOUR OWN OIL SPILL

First, check with an adult to make sure it is OK for you to try this experience as things could get a little mucky.

WHAT TO DO:

Fill a pan or a sink with water and add some vegetable. Watch as it forms an oil slick on top of the water. Your challenge: Remove the oil as best as you can. Use 'clean-up' tools like cotton balls, spoons, cornstarch, cardboard and anything else you think might soak up the oil.

ASK YOURSELF:

Were you able to clean up all of the oil? If it's this hard to clean up a little bit of oil, then how hard would it be to clean up thousands of liters of oil in the ocean and to clean it off of wildlife? Usually only 15% of oil can be cleaned up. The rest stays in the environment.

What worked best at cleaning up the oil? Why?

What problems did you have cleaning up the oil? Why?

Does oil spills only affect whales? What other species do you think are affected?

What can we do to make sure oil spills don't happen?