

LEARNING FOCUS:

Information retrieval

SEAL/GIRL

Chapter 5: Research



Seal/Girl refers to the issue of environmental damage to the oceans caused by plastic waste, and the hazard it can pose to marine life.



Image of a real seal affected by entanglement in a 'ghost net', the term used for nets which have been lost from commercial fishing vessels (Image: Seal Rescue Ireland)

‘Close up, they could see why the seal hadn’t reacted to their presence. It couldn’t. Its head and neck, which had been turned away, were completely entangled in green netting. It was alive, large eyes beseeching, but couldn’t free itself...A flipper was stuck, pulling the netting tighter at the neck and pinning the seal’s head to its shoulder at an awkward angle.’

ACTIVITY:

Research and present information on one creature of your choice that is affected by marine pollution. It can be from anywhere in the world and could be a bird, fish, crustacean or mammal. Your research should include all of the following as subheadings:

Its common and Latin names
Where in the world does the animal live?
What habitat does it need to thrive?
What does it eat?
How many are there in the wild?
How is it affected by pollution?
Other interesting information

Use at least four different sources (websites and/or books) to find your information.

Find unusual or interesting facts, the kind that Grace might tell Gorran.