

# Beachcomber

**Try not to use plastic bags for your shopping.**



**This is what they can do:**

**Turtles eat plastic bags. They think they are jellyfish.  
The bags kill them.**

<http://www.publicdomainpictures.net/view-image.php?image=7067&picture=sea-turtle>

**Whales eat them. They also become tangled in them.**

**Seabird populations have also been drastically affected. Many of the birds found have been entangled in marine litter of some kind.**

In 2014, volunteers cleared **30,000kg** of litter from 113 beaches and 50 canals around the country – covering an area of 300km in total. Alongside fishing equipment and discarded household plastics, they found a bath, a trampoline and even a HM Prison Services toothbrush.



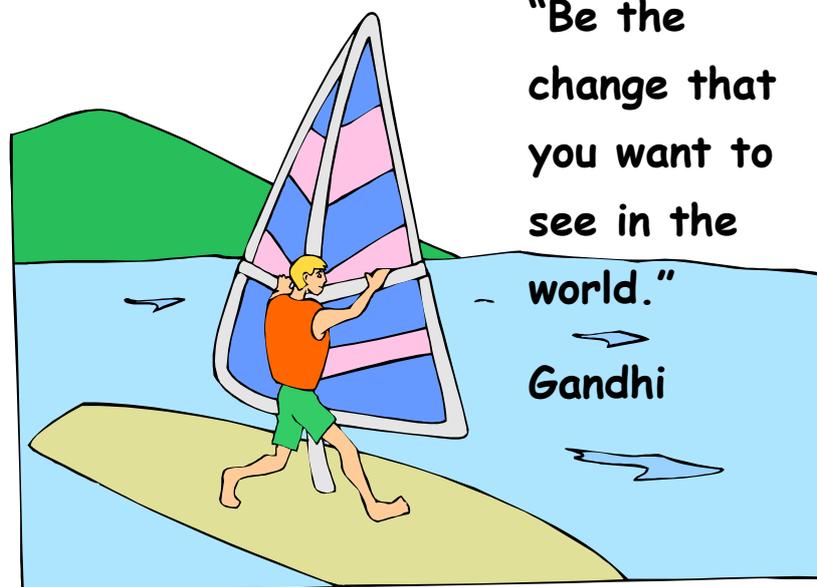
<http://www.public-domain-image.com/free-images>

**If you are going to the seaside for a day-trip this year, why not take a plastic bag with you? No, not to drop on the beach to kill a seabird or turtle! To carry away a bag full of litter.**

***Always ask an adult to help you. Always wear protective gloves. Don't touch anything you think might be dangerous.***

Take a stroll along the beach, just before you intend to head for home. Wearing your gloves, pick up any bits of litter from the beach as you go. Place it in the plastic shopping bag you brought for the purpose. Once you've filled the bag, carry it to the nearest rubbish bin and deposit it safely into the bin, where the council cleaners can take it away and dispose of it properly.

If everyone who went to the beach collected one bag of litter, it would make a huge difference to the state of our oceans and beaches. It would prevent countless deaths amongst our sea-life.



<http://www.public-domain-image.com/architecture/dock-pier/slides/pier-at-imperial-beach.html>

<http://www.public-domain-image.com/miscellaneous/slides/ocean-waves-water-beaches-sand-crowds-san-diego.html>



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