A sea of oil

1 Overall aims:

- Exploring the concept of pollution;
- Knowing the causes of pollution;
- Developing and improving the manual skills;
- Developing the ability to make and test hypotheses;
- Make observations and predictions

2 Vocabulary - keywords

Water; Pollution; Sea

3 Sustainable abilities developed

- Knowing how the pollution acts;
- Knowing the causes of pollution;
- Interiorizing the importance of adopting sustainable actions

4 Pillars of sustainability included

Environmental sustainability

5 | STEAM domains

Science; Engineering; Art

6 Teaching methodologies/activity outline

- 1) The children fill plastic caps with oil and place these 'barrels' on the boat.
- 2) They then place the tanker in the water.
- 3) They simulate an accident: the children spill the oil and observe how it spreads;
- 4) The teacher now asks them to clean up the sea by scooping up the oil with a spoon, trying to absorb it with cotton balls.
- 5) The children realise that even with so much effort it is almost impossible to remove the oil completely.
- 6) The teacher asks the children to dip their feather into the spilt oil and tell what they notice.



This project has been funded with support from the European Commission. This publication reflects the views only of the authors, and the Commission cannot be held responsible for any use which may be made of the information contained therein.

Oil spills are very dangerous for wild animals and kill thousands of seabirds, fish and other species living in the seas. 7 **Expected learning outcomes** The pupils will know: The causes of pollution How the pollution acts; Observe: Test hypotheses; **Assessment** 8 **Initial evaluation:** assessing what pupils already know about the general concepts; **Middle evaluation:** assessing what pupils are learning during the experiment; **Final evaluation:** assess, through systematic observation, whether pupils reached the goals. Equipment and materials to be used in learning unit (tools, 9 ingredients etc) A large plastic container filled with water (e.g. a basin) A plastic boat; Two plastic caps; Vegetable oil; One teaspoon; Cotton balls: A feather 10 Kind of setting - lab, kitchen, outdoor etc. Indoor 11 **References - source:** Litton, J. & Margan, P. (2020). Il mio pianeta: ecologia [What on earth? The environment]. Giunti Editore.



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