

World Environment Day



**Mission Earth:
Small Actions, Big Changes**

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Urgent Message from the Planet Protectors Agency

Every year on June 5th, people all over the world celebrate World Environment Day. But this year, the Earth needs your help. A massive problem is threatening our oceans and wildlife.

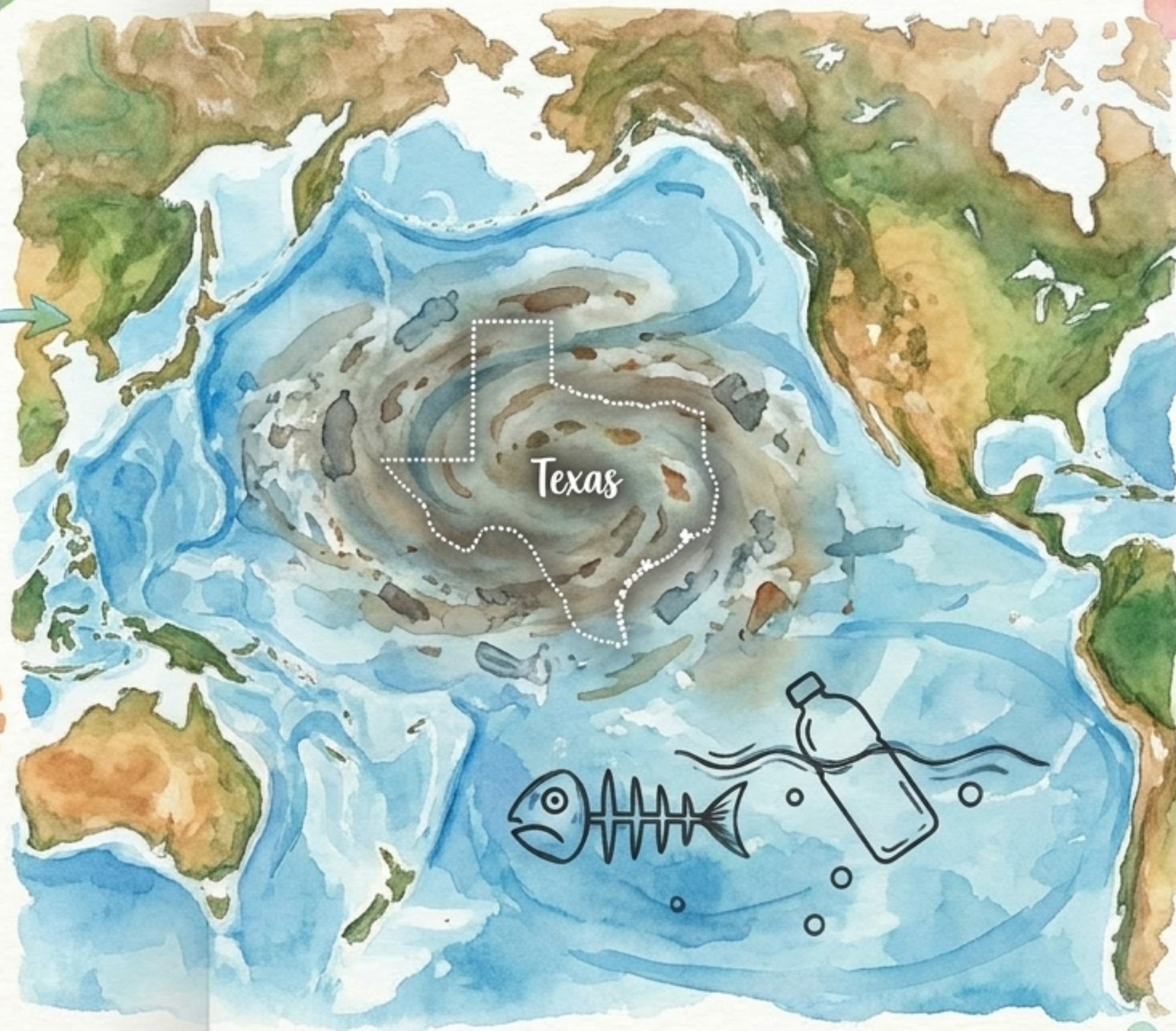
Can our 5th-grade class become official Planet Protectors and make the Earth smile again?

The Villain: The Great Pacific Garbage Patch

Discovered by scientists in the 1980s, there is a giant island of floating garbage in the Pacific Ocean.

The Size: It is about the same size as the entire state of Texas!

The Danger: It is mostly made up of disposable plastics—toothbrushes, pens, cans, and bottles. This is severely hurting our sea life.



The Invisible Threat of Plastic



The Plastic Bottle

Built using harsh factory materials, plastic is not natural.



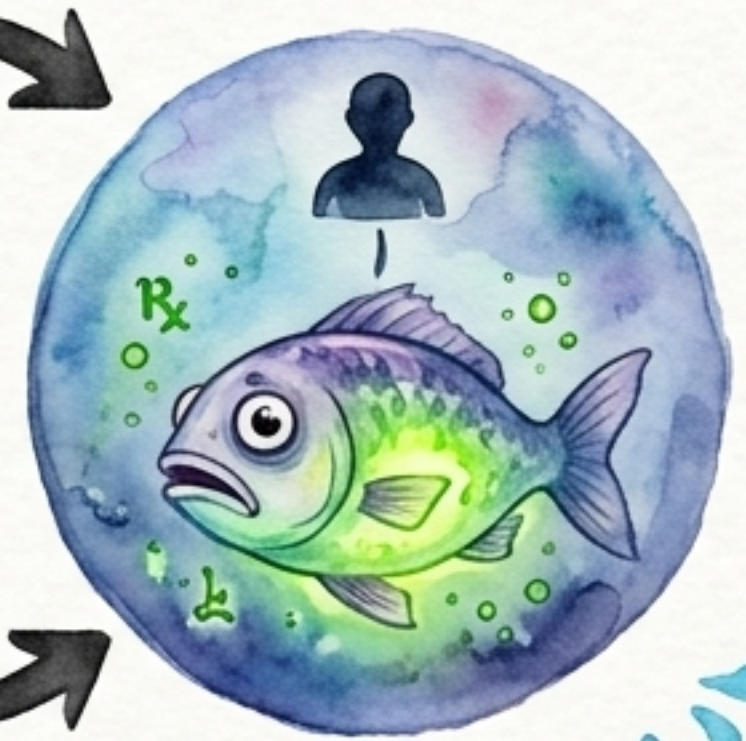
The Long Wait

Plastic doesn't disappear. It takes hundreds to thousands of years to break down.



The Chemical Leak

As it breaks apart, dangerous chemicals leak into the water.



The Sick Food Chain

Chemicals enter the fish, making the wildlife—and the humans who eat them—sick.

Our Planet-Protecting Superpowers

1. Saving Resources



2. Looking After the Local Environment



3. Reducing Waste



4. Recycling



The Planet Protectors Agency has identified four ways we can **fight the garbage patch** from right here at home.

Power 1 & Power 2: Save and Protect

Saving Resources

- Turn off the lights when leaving a room.
- Keep doors closed when the heating or air conditioning is on.
- Turn off the tap water while brushing your teeth.
- Eat locally grown food.



Looking After the Local Environment

- Always put your rubbish in the bin.
- Pick up litter that has been dropped outside.
- Go on a nature walk to appreciate your area.
- Avoid squashing bugs—many have important jobs in nature!



Power 3 & Power 4: Reduce and Recycle

Reducing Waste

- Use a reusable water bottle instead of disposable plastic ones.
- Use both sides of the paper when drawing or writing.
- Upcycle old items into something new.
- Don't take more than you need.



Recycling

- Find out what items can be recycled in your local area.
- Always check if an item can be recycled before throwing it away.
- Donate good quality toys, books, and clothes instead of trashing them.



The Final Step: Your Earth Promise

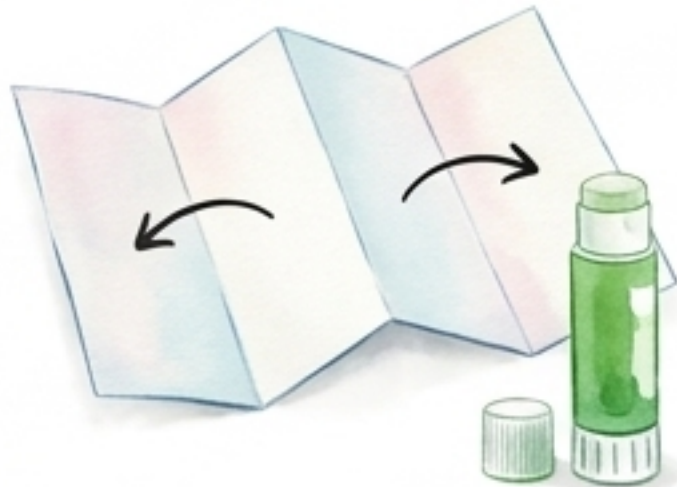


To become an official Planet Protector, you must take the oath! Today, we are going to build an **Earth Promise Foldout**. your folded Earth, you will write down **four personal promises**—one for each of your new superpowers.

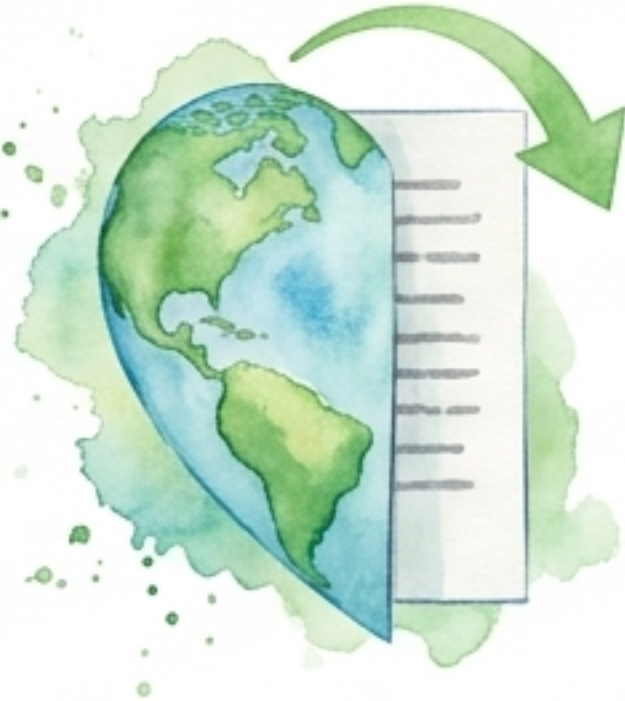
How to Build Your Foldout

Step 1: Fold the Sections

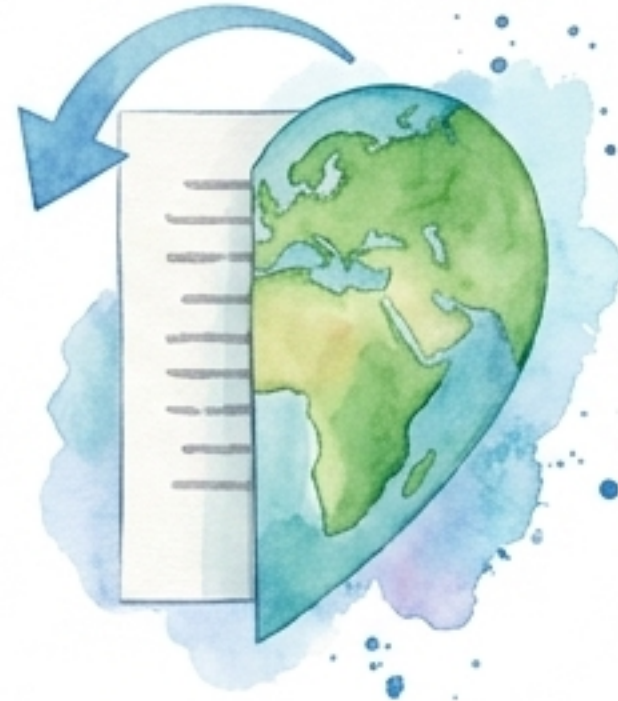
Fold the middle sections alternately like an accordion.



Step 2: Fold Back



Step 3: Fold Back



Step 4: Bring Halves Together!



Gently pull apart to
reveal your secret
promises inside!

Instructional Note: Don't forget to write your four promises **BEFORE** you glue!
Example: "I turn off the tap."



Mission Accepted!

The Great Pacific Garbage Patch is huge, but **millions** of **Planet Protectors** making smart choices every single day are even stronger.

“Small choices today,
big difference tomorrow.”