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The Prime Minister  
Government House  
Canberra

Dear Mr Morrison,

I am worried about the poor animals in the ocean because there is lots of rubbish in the sea, as well as pollution and chemicals. There is so much litter in the ocean, if sea animals and birds eat it they will get sick and they may die. When animals eat litter, it can affect them and they can get very sick (*Oceans: Animal Homes*). Turtles may get tangled up in fishing nets. Their flippers can get caught, and they might try to eat their way out. Turtles have been known to get strangled and die. Nylon fishing lines and nets should be banned.

My idea is to make nets that fish can see so that we can scoop up the rubbish and not the fish. Then the rubbish in the net will not hurt the fish. We can make the nets just for collecting rubbish, not catching fish.

A lot of the rubbish that finds its way into the ocean is plastic. Guess what? In some parts of the Great Pacific garbage patch, there's more plastic than plankton! (*National Geographic website*). Plankton is a tiny animal that whales and other animals eat. Dutch teenager, Boyan Slat, made a barrier like a tube floating on the water with a solid wall hanging from it that collects rubbish pushed by currents. This is heading towards the Great Pacific garbage patch now ([time.com](http://time.com)). My idea is to create ships that are electronic that sense rubbish in the ocean. They could dive, scoop, collect and store rubbish.

We should also avoid using chemicals and oil. If oil gets into the ocean it pollutes the ocean and can create oil slicks. If oil gets on animals and birds it will make it hard for them to breathe and eat, and it can affect birds' feathers and they cannot fly.

Some people put rubbish in the ocean on purpose. Factories use a lot of chemicals and this goes into rivers and lakes, and can make its way into the ocean. We can use security cameras that will show the police what has been happening, and then they will know if people have been throwing litter into the ocean or polluting. We could also create wooden boxes that will go over rubbish bins to prevent rubbish from blowing out if they fall over.

If we do these innovations, the ocean will become clean again.

Yours sincerely,

Isabelle Prins (Year 2)

## **Appendix: Scientific Principles**

1. Too much rubbish and pollution in the ocean that is affecting sea creatures
2. More plastic than garbage in some areas of our oceans
3. Avoid petrol or oil spills in the ocean as this kills sea birds and sea creatures
4. Chemicals are one of the ocean's biggest threats
5. Avoid nylon string or lines as this tangles and kills animals and sea birds

## **Bibliography**

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