

Sort It Out



**A plastic recycling story
brought to you by:**



Welcome to SORT IT OUT.

To play please scroll down the pages.

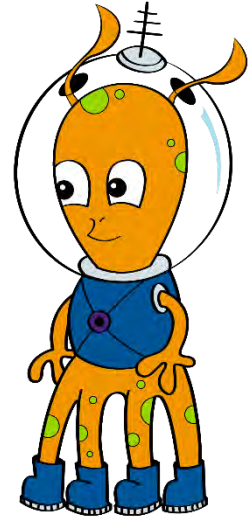
Sometimes you will be asked to make a choice
by clicking on a box, like this one below.

Ready to start?

I want to play

Sort It Out

Can you help a visiting alien learn about why recycling helps the environment and keeps our planet clean, tidy, and safe?



“Hello,

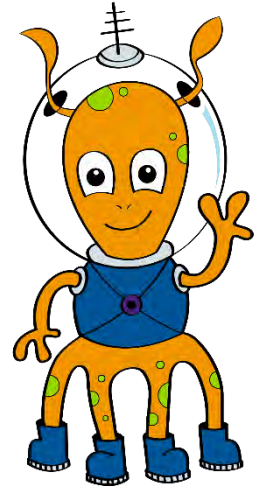
I am visiting Earth to find out what you do with your plastic bottles after you finish using them. My planet is very messy because we have bottles everywhere. I wonder what we could differently to keep it tidy.

I would also like to have some fun as well while I am here. I understand humans like to visit the beach and play football.

Where would you like to go today?”

**Go to
the park**

**Go to
the beach**





**LET'S GO
TO THE PARK**

“You are lucky to have a nice park to play in. There is so much space to play football. It is not like this on my planet. We have lots of litter and plastic bottles everywhere.”



"I like this game you call football. I can see why you enjoy it.

I think playing with four feet is easier than with two though!"





“Wahey!
You scored.
Great goal!”

“Thank you for teaching me
about football.

Earthlings are very energetic.

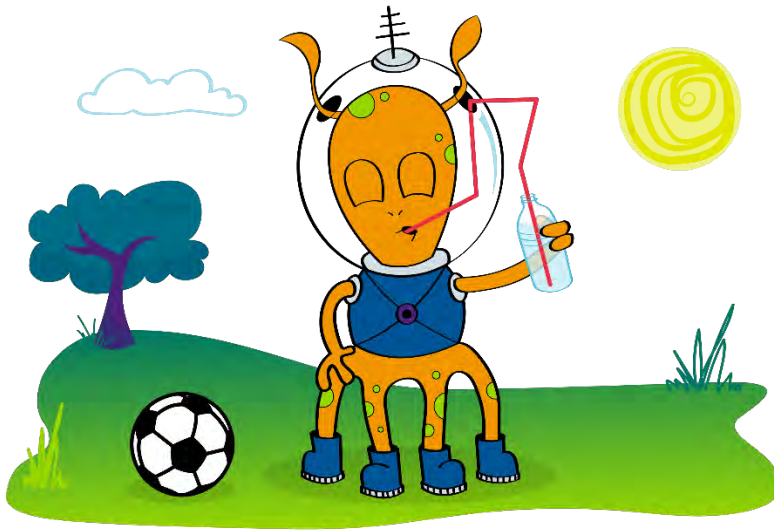
I am hot and thirsty after all
that running around.”





Playing football takes lots of energy so it is always a good idea to pack a few drinks for after the game.

There are some bottles of water in the bag. Please help yourself.



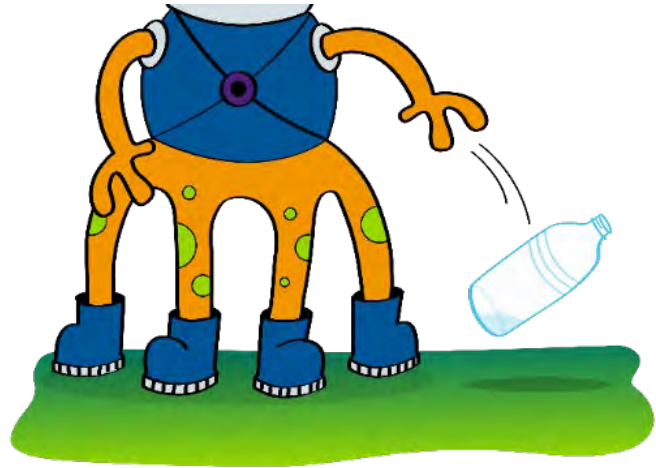
“Oooo, that is better.

What a great idea to bring a
drink with you. Thank you.”

“Now I have finished my drink I feel much better. Thank you.

It is difficult to find anywhere to play on my planet because there is litter and empty bottles everywhere.

I do not understand where it all comes from.”



Oops! Can you see where the plastic litter might come from?



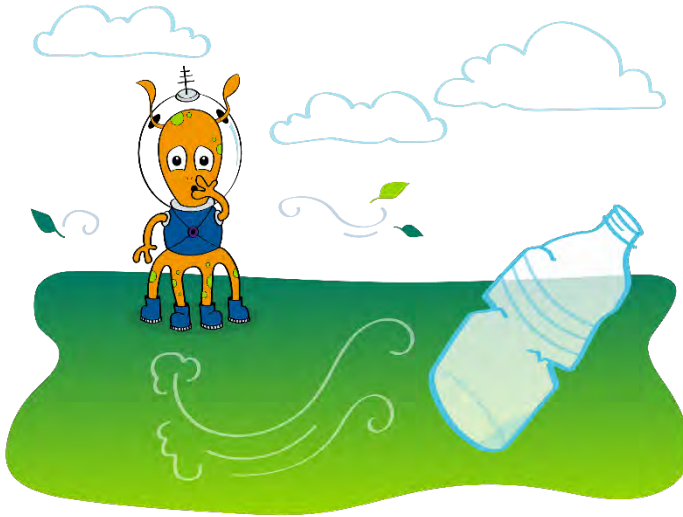
Our alien friend has dropped his bottle on the grass!

What do you think you should do with the empty bottle? Should you leave it on the ground? Or take it home with you to put it in the bin?

Click the box below to make your choice.

**Leave it
at the park**

**Pick it up and
take it home**



You decide to leave the bottle on the ground.

“It is so clean at the park. I do not think my bottle will be a problem.”

As you leave the park the wind blows, and the bottle begins to blow away.

Oh no! Can you see? The bottle has gone into the river.



“Well, that was lucky! The park is already clean again and looks as good as before! I did not think my bottle would cause a problem. One bottle in a river is so small. It will soon be washed away and gone forever.”



Wait a minute ... watch the bottle and see where it goes next. After it leaves the park it gets washed away by the river.

It bobs along until it reaches the mouth of the river and flows into the sea.

“Great! I am happy it did not matter that I dropped my bottle! I am glad I did not cause a problem to Earth by leaving my bottle on the grass at the park.”



But what happens if everyone leaves just one bottle? We would soon have lots of bottles in the sea.

“Oh no! Is this why the sea looks like it does on my planet? Now Earth is getting spoilt too. Look! I can see my bottle has joined lots of others. This makes me sad.”





When bottles and other plastics don't get recycled, they can end up harming the environment.

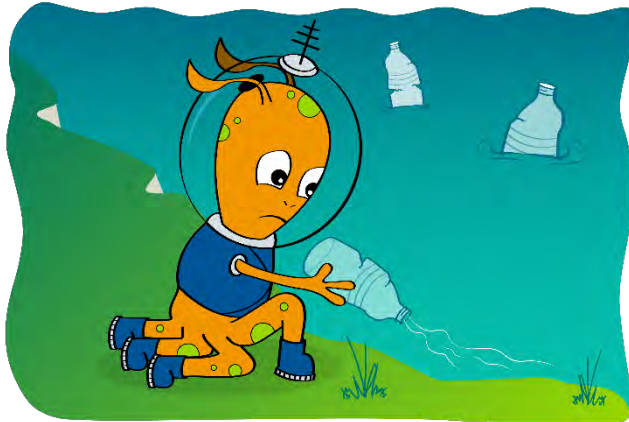
If plastic ends up in the ocean the fish and other wildlife struggle to swim and survive.

“I am sorry. I did not know by leaving one small bottle this would happen. If everyone leaves just one bottle or other litter, it creates a lot of litter and will damage the environment.

I need to explain this to people on my planet. They have to understand what happens when we leave litter.”

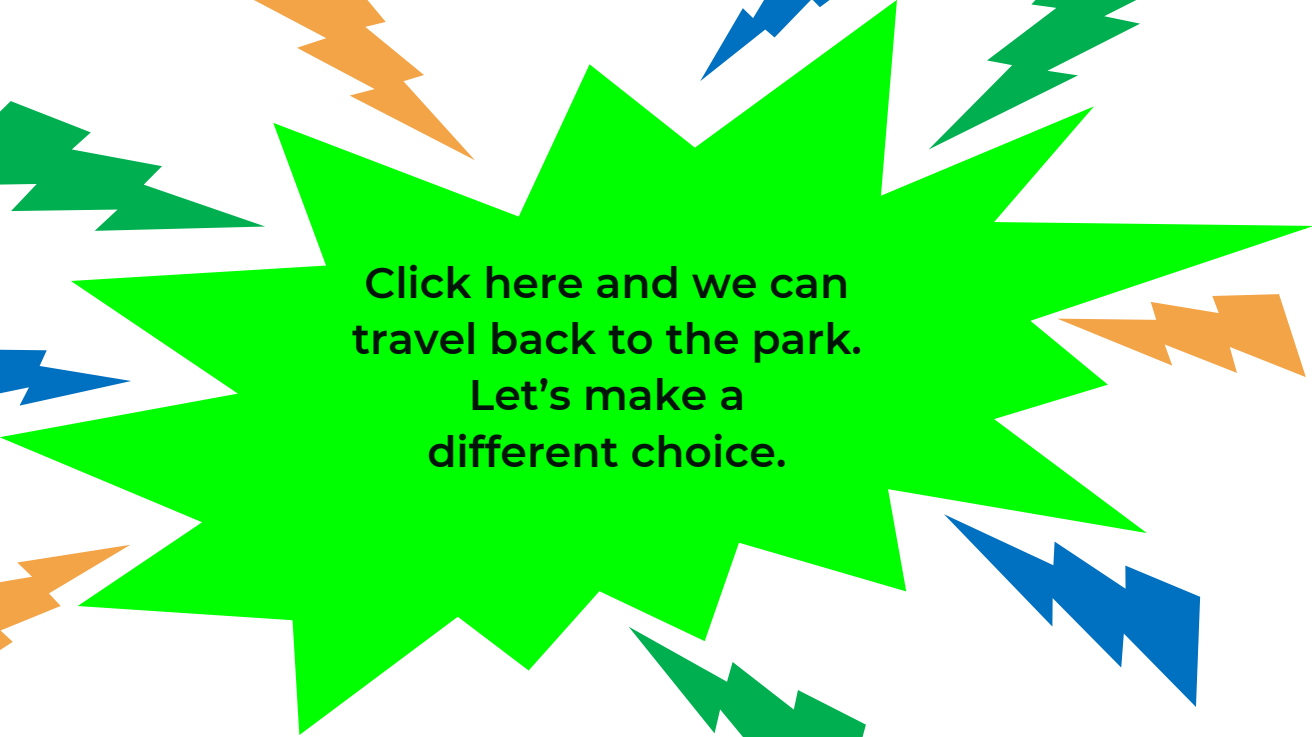


What do you think we could have done differently?



“Perhaps we should have picked the bottle up and taken it home?”

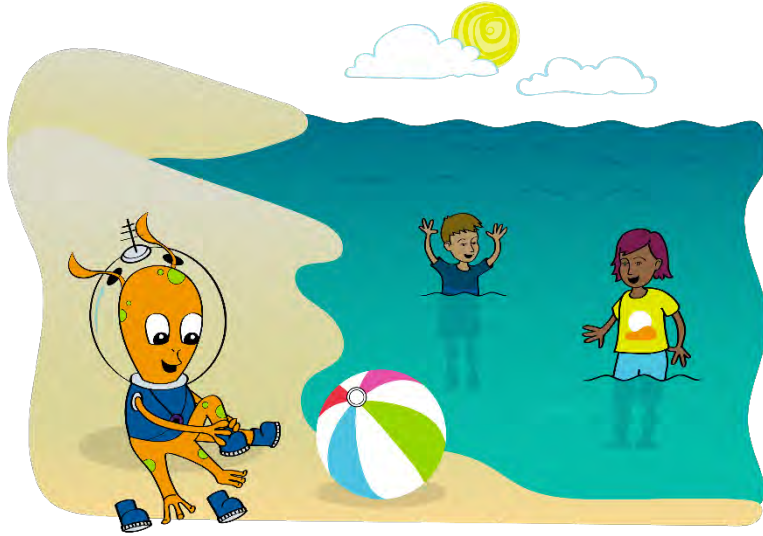
That’s right. Pick it up and we can go back to see what would have happened instead.



**Click here and we can
travel back to the park.
Let's make a
different choice.**

A thick, hand-drawn style yellow border with a wavy, irregular shape, enclosing the text.

**LET'S GO
TO THE BEACH**

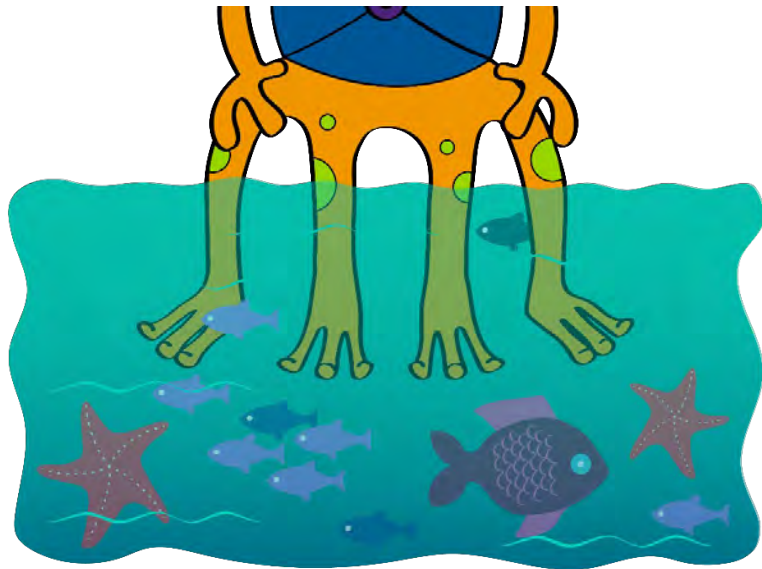


“Wow what a lovely beach.

The sand on the beach is so lovely and clean.

The beaches on my planet are covered with rubbish lying around everywhere.

The water looks cool. Wait for me to take my shoes off. This could take me a while.”



“This is great fun. The water is so clean. It is clear and sparkling. I can see all my feet.

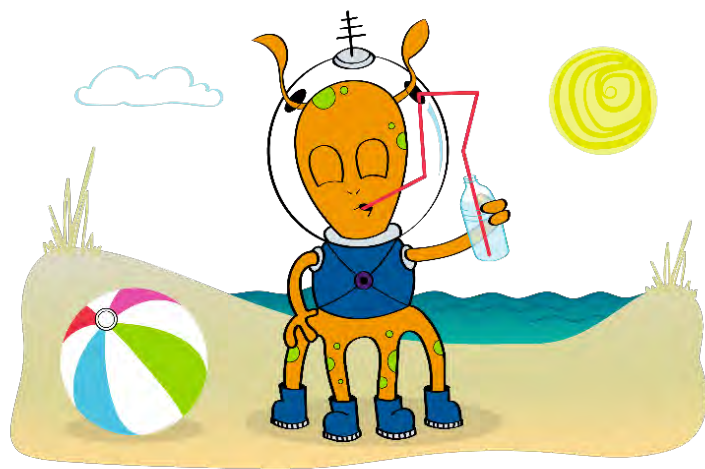
The fish are tickling me. I have never seen so many.”

“Thank you for a lovely day at the beach.

I enjoyed my day. Humans are very energetic. I am thirsty now after all our playing and paddling.”



It is always a good idea to pack a few drinks if you are going out for the day. Please help yourself to a bottle of water from the bag.



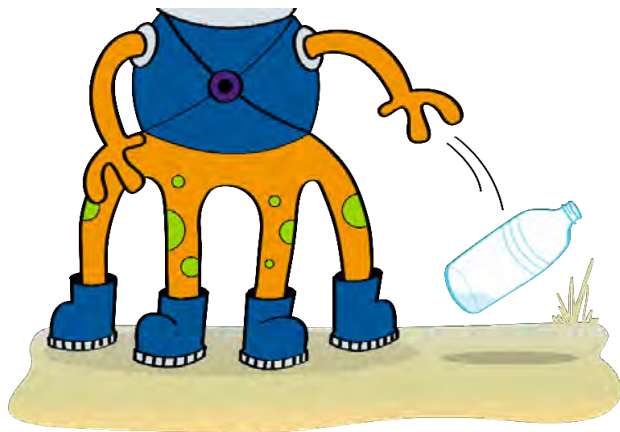
“Oooo, that is so much better. I am glad you brought a drink. Thank you.

It is lovely having a clean beach and sea to play in. You Humans are lucky to have a clean and tidy planet. I have never seen so many fish!

"I have finished my drink.
Thank you.

I do not understand why my
planet is so messy with
litter.

I wonder where it all comes
from?"



Oops! Can you see where the plastic litter might come from?



Our alien friend has thrown his bottle on the ground.

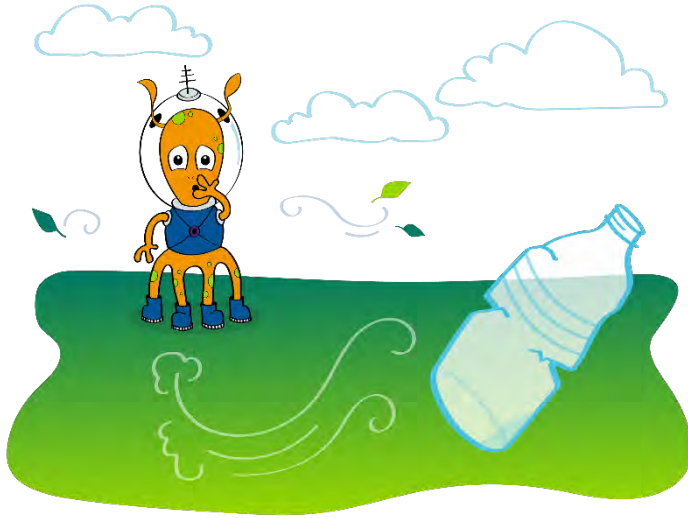
What do you think you should do with the empty bottle?

Will you leave it on the beach? Or will you take it home with you to put it in the bin?

Click on the box below to make your choice.

**Just leave
it at the beach**

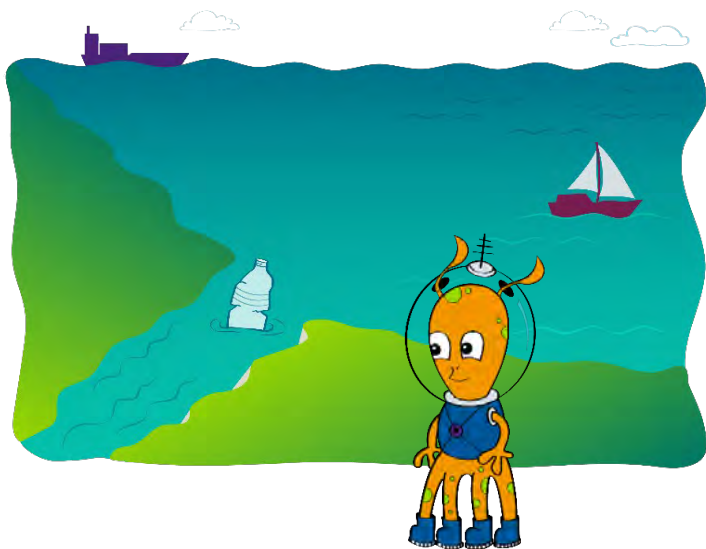
**Pick it up and
take it home**



You decided to leave the bottle on beach.

"I agree, leave it there. One bottle left will not cause a problem. It is so clean here."

As you leave the beach there is a gust of wind and the bottle begins to blow away.



Oh no! Can you see what has happened? The bottle has gone into the sea.

“Well, that was lucky! The beach is clean again and looks as good as before! I did not think one bottle would cause a mess on the beach or a big problem to Earth. One bottle in the sea is so small. It will soon be washed away and gone forever.”

But what happens if everyone leaves just one bottle? We would soon have lots of bottles in the sea.



“Could this be why the sea looks like it does on my planet? And now because I left one bottle, Earth could get spoilt too? Oh no!

Look! There is my bottle with lots of others. This makes me sad.”

When bottles and other plastics don't get recycled, they can end up harming the environment.

If plastic ends up in the ocean the fish and other wildlife struggle to swim and survive.

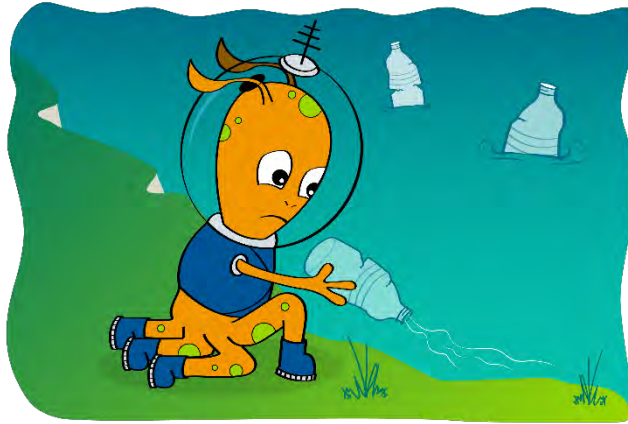


“I am sorry. I did not know that by leaving one small bottle this would happen. If everyone leaves just one bottle or other litter, we can damage the environment.

I need to explain this to people on my planet and show them what happens when we leave litter.”

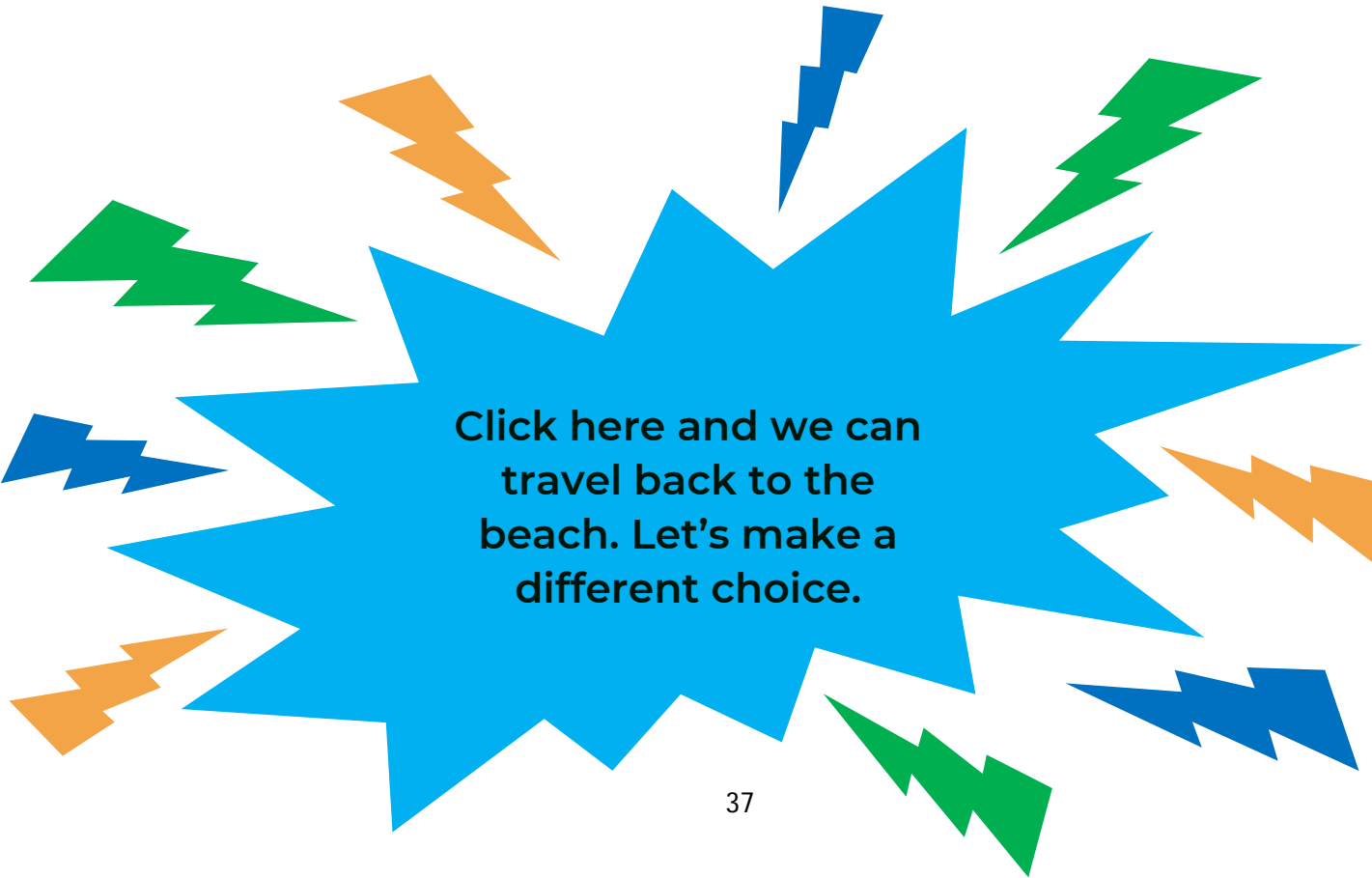


What do you think we could have done differently?



“Perhaps we should have picked the bottle up and taken it home?”

That’s right. Pick it up and we can find out what would have happened instead.



**Click here and we can
travel back to the
beach. Let's make a
different choice.**

Excellent choice! Thank you for choosing to bring the plastic bottles home.

On Earth we don't litter plastic bottles because we want to protect the environment to keep it nice.

By taking the plastic bottles home we can reuse them first and when we don't need them any longer, we can recycle them. This is why we have nice clean parks and fresh water to paddle in. We take our bottles home with us and never waste the plastic.



But now we have another choice.

These bottles are ready to go into the bin.

But we have two bins to choose from.

Which one will you put your bottle in?

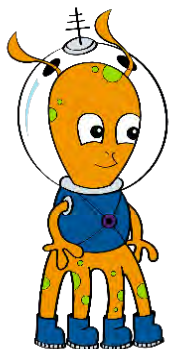


**General
Waste**

Recycling

Smart choice! Shall we find out what happens when the recycling is collected? Watch the video on the next page.



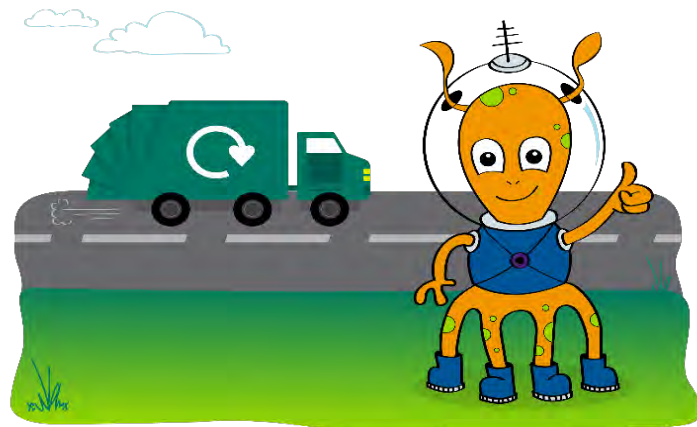


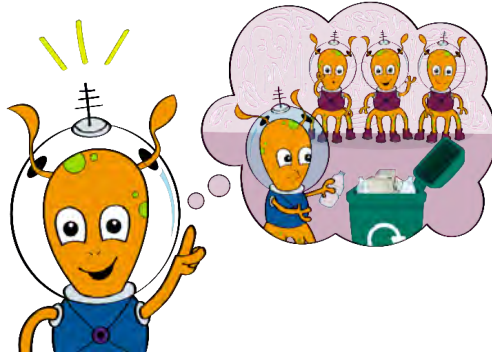
Click on the image to take a trip to a Recovery Facility discover how your plastic bottles are recycled. This will open a window. When you have watched the film, close it and we can continue our story. See you soon!

"Wow that was a great film. Thank you for sharing it with me. I found out lots. Did you?"

By recycling the bottles, we help keep the park and beach clean. This will save the fish and it means the plastic can be used again to make more bottles.

How clever is that?"





“This is a great lesson for me to share with my friends on my planet. Recycling keeps the planet clean, stops us wasting resources and helps make new products! Thank you for an amazing day.”

Shall we play again?

YES

I want to
Sort It Out
again.

NO

Thanks for learning
about recycling.
Bye for now.

OK, you chose to put the bottles into the General Waste bin.

That is a much better choice than leaving it behind at the park or the beach.

Shall we see what happens to it next? We put the bin outside to wait for the bin men to collect it.



The bottle gets picked up
by the bin lorry and they
take it away.

“But where do they
take it? Can we follow
it and find out?”



The bin lorry takes the general waste to the landfill site which is very full and smelly.

“Oh no, that does not seem like the best choice. It is better than being in the ocean and harming the fish, but I think these bottles could stay at the landfill site for many many years. This seems like a big waste of materials.

What would have happened if we had put them in the other bin?”



[Click here and we can go back and find out.](#)

Thank you for playing #SortItOut

Find out more:

<http://www.pledge2recycle.co.uk>

or follow @pledge2recycle @valpak.

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