

Captain Charles Moore on the seas of plastic

TED Lectures

Note-taking Activity

Directions: First listen to the lecture and take notes. Then using your notes, you will answer the following questions.

1. When did North America become a “throw away” society?
2. What role did the media play in this?
3. Why is plastic hard to recycle?
4. How many plastic beverage bottles are used every hour in the United States?
5. Why are albatross chicks dying?
6. How are the most common fish in the oceans affected by plastic garbage?
7. Why does the speaker say that there are no certified organic ocean caught fish?
8. Is the speaker optimistic that we can solve this problem?

Answer Key

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1. Post World War Two.
2. They praised the liberating aspects of throw-away living.
3. Because of its low melting point, it is difficult to remove contaminants such as oils etc.
4. 24,000,000. (2 million each 5 minutes x 12 = 24,000,000)
5. Their mothers are feeding them bottle caps and plastics they collect at sea.
6. They are ingesting (eating) the plastic fragments.
7. Because of the level of contaminants.
8. No.