

A SHARED SEA

The Baltic Sea has nine coastal countries. Circle the coastal countries from the list:

Argentina, Belgium, Spain, Fiji,
Italy, Latvia, Lithuania,
Norway, Poland, Sweden,
Germany, Finland, Denmark,
Thailand, Russia, Estonia

NICKNAMES

Can you recognise the languages?

Östersjö
Läänemere
Ostsee
Østersøen
Itämeripäivä
Baltiyskoye

A TREASURE TROVE OF WRECKS

True or False?

- ☐ There are about one thousand shipwrecks on the bottom of the Baltic Sea.
- ☐ The wrecks are preserved well because the marine wood-eating mollusc does not survive in the Baltic Sea.



THE BALTIC SEA

BRACKISH WATER AND DEPTH

True or False?

- ☐ The Baltic Sea is saltier than lakes.
- ☐ The Mediterranean Sea and the Atlantic Ocean are saltier than the Baltic Sea.
- ☐ The average depth of the Baltic Sea is 5.4 km and the Atlantic's is 3.3 km.
- ☐ The deepest point of the Baltic Sea is near Gotland.



GARBAGE

Name pieces of litter that may end up in the Baltic Sea

FUN THINGS TO DO AT SEA

Circle and come up with your own :

What do you like to do?

Swim in the sea, row, scuba dive,
walk on the beach, go boating,
sit on the shore, jump in, fish...

KEY SPECIES

Name and draw one of the key species of the Baltic Sea

FILL IN THE BUBBLES

BALTIC SEA DAY

A SHARED SEA

The Baltic Sea has nine coastal countries:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.
- 6.
- 7.
- 8.
- 9.

NICKNAMES

Which language? How many directions can you find?

Östersjö, Läänemere, Ostsee, Baltijos Jūra, Østersøen, Morze Bałtyckie, Baltiyskoye.

CATCHMENT BASIN

Around _____ inhabitant's waters drain to the Baltic Sea. In addition to the coastal states, the catchment area includes parts of

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.

BALTIC SEA

A TREASURE TROVE OF WRECKS

Shipwrecks are preserved under the Baltic sea because?

GARBAGE

List the garbage that may end up in the Baltic Sea:

PROBLEMS

Eutrophication is the biggest problem. What other issues threaten the Baltic Sea?

FILL IN THE
BUBBLES

**FILL IN THE
BUBBLES**

**DEPTH OF THE
BALTIC SEA
(AVERAGE AND DEEPEST
POINT)**

**SALINITY IN THE
BALTIC SEA AND
OTHER OCEANS**

**WATER
CHANGING IN
THE BALTIC SEA**

**WATER
ICE
SALT**

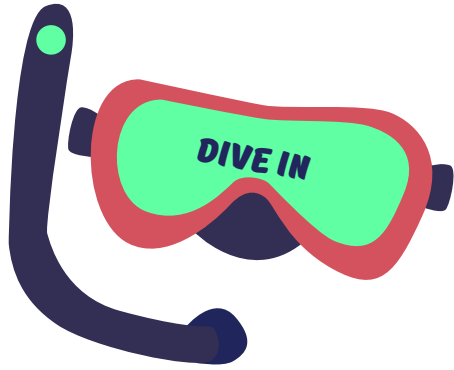
**WATER CIRCULATION
IN THE BALTIC SEA**

FREEZING OVER

HALOCLINE



WRITE - WHAT CAN YOU DO YOURSELF?



DIET

DETERGENTS

BALTIC SEA ACTIONS

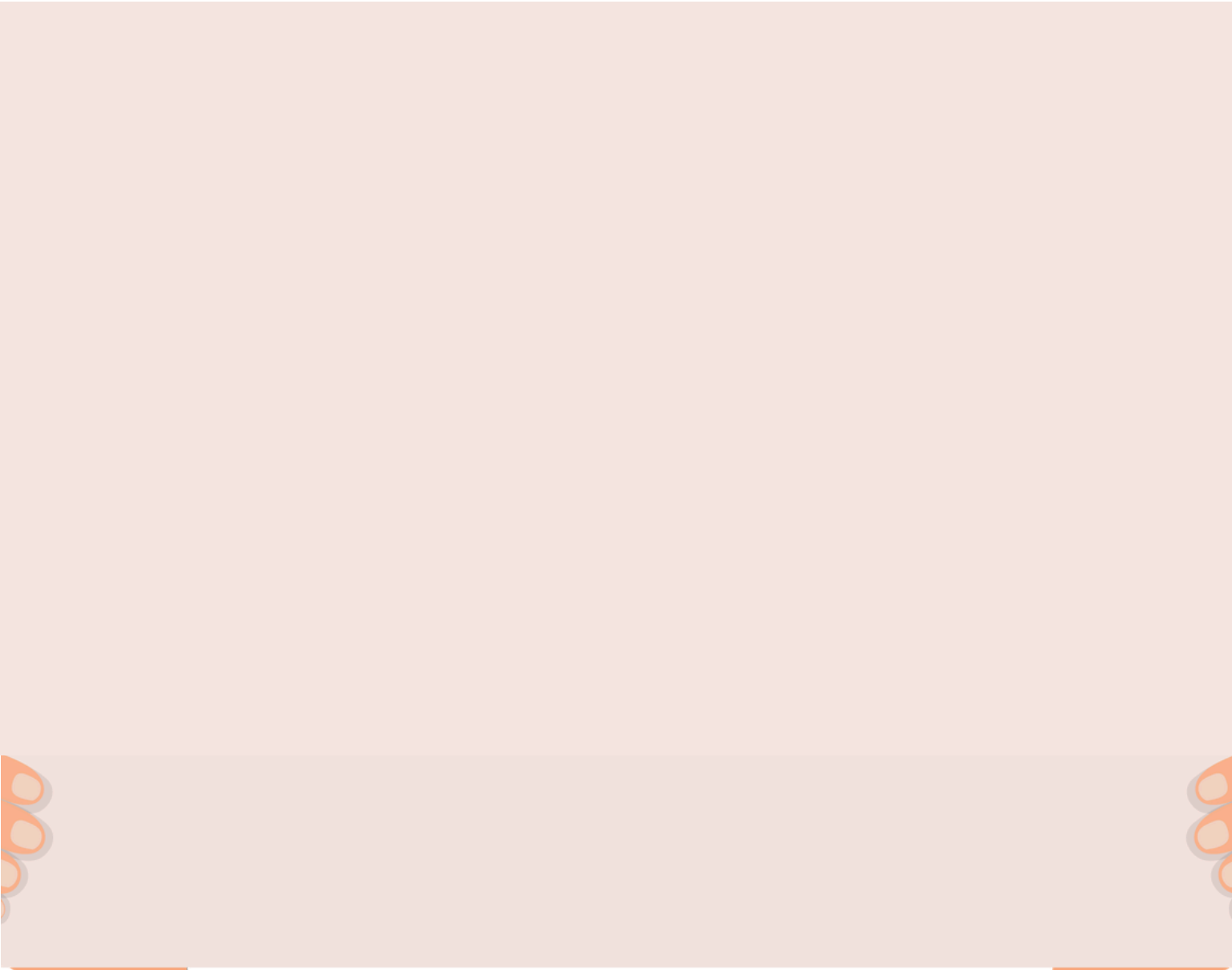
CONSUMPTION

TRAVEL

WASTE

OTHER

DESIGN **A POSTER FOR BALTIC SEA DAY PARADE**



**BALTIC SEA
DAY**

Mark the last
Thursday in August
in your calendar!
Come up with an
event for the school!

BALTIC SEA DAY

Baltic Sea Day is a day of celebration for the Baltic Sea. It is celebrated annually on the last Thursday of August.

A SHARED SEA

The Baltic Sea has nine coastal countries - Finland, Sweden, Denmark, Germany, Poland, Lithuania, Latvia, Estonia and Russia.

NICKNAMES

East, West and Baltic, the sea has many names: Östersjö, Läänemere, Ostsee, Baltijos Jūra, Østersøen, Morze Bałtyckie, Baltiyskoye and more.

CONTINUOUS CHANGING

Following the pressure of the Ice Age, uplift is still occurring along the shores of the Gulf of Bothnia. In the future, the Gulf of Bothnia will close at the Kvarken if there is no significant acceleration in ocean rise.

CATCHMENT BASIN

The Baltic Sea drains the waters of a population of around 90 million. In addition to the coastal countries, the catchment area includes parts of Belarus, Ukraine, the Czech Republic, Slovakia and Norway.

BALTIC SEA

A TREASURE TROVE OF WRECKS

Remnants of human culture are often better preserved at the bottom of the sea than on land. Currently there are thousands of wrecks in the Baltic Sea.

PROBLEMS

Climate change is accelerating the biggest problem: eutrophication. Heavy maritime traffic increases the risk of accidents, such as oil spills.

BALTIC SUB-AREAS

Can you place on a map

- Gulf of Riga
- Archipelago Sea
- Bothnian Sea
- Gulf of Finland
- Bornholm and Arkona Basins

GARBAGE

Littering has increased in the Baltic Sea. Plastic debris, which breaks down into microplastics, is transported to the sea through multiple routes.



THE BALTIC SEAS BIGGEST PROBLEM

Eutrophication is caused by excessive nutrient loads and leads to excessive growth of algae and plants.

INTERNAL LOAD

It takes 30 years for the entire volume of water in the Baltic Sea to change. Thus, excessive nutrients that eutrophicate remain in the sea for a long time.

RUNOFF NUTRIENTS

The largest sources of nutrients are run-off from fields and commercial forests.

EUTROPHICATION

WASTE WATER TREATMENT

Wastewater from cities and other settlements is now reasonably well treated for nutrients. It used to be different!

ALGAE

Duringn summer, eutrophication is visible as blue-green algal blooms. Light, warmth and abundant nutrients can lead to the blue-green algae to appear at mass.

SLIME AND STENCH

Eutrophication causes rocks and cliffs to become slimy. Rotting algae can cause unpleasant odours.



HERRING

**FUCUS
VESICULOSUS**

EELGRASS

MUSSLE

KEY SPECIES

... are species that play a more significant role than other species in the functioning or diversity of an ecosystem or community of organisms.

A SPECIAL ENVIRONMENT

Water stratification, cold, darkness and the lack of acidity in deep water. Shallow, variable salinity and low biodiversity.

BRACKISH WATER

Only organisms that can adapt to low-salinity water and salinity variation can thrive.

LITTLE COUSINS

In the Baltic Sea, herring and mussels cannot grow as large as herring and mussels in the oceans because of the low salt content.

ECO- SYSTEM

AGE

The Baltic Sea is still young. Formed after the latest Ice Age, the sea is still changing, both due to land uplift and human activity.

HABITAT TYPE

... is an area with similar environmental conditions, such as soil quality, nutrient content and species. There are many different types of habitats.

INVASIVE SPECIES

... can endanger the local ecosystem. Invasive species have entered the Baltic Sea from other seas, including from ballast water from ocean-going vessels.





1 BALTIC ICE LAKE

The whole of Finland was covered by more than a kilometre of continental ice and meltwater about 11 000-18 000 years ago.



2 YOLDIAN SEA

Around 11 000 years ago, the continental ice sheet retreated and the Ice Age ended. The Baltic Ice Lake joined the North Sea at the Great Lakes of Sweden.



GEO HISTORY

4 LITTORAL SEA

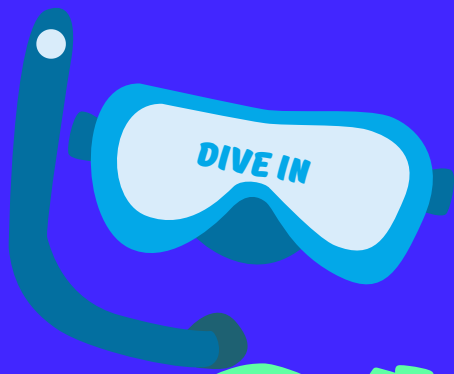
Salt water started to flow into the region again as the ocean level rose - this time from the Danish Straits. The littoral sea was born 8 500 years ago.



3 ANCYLUS LAKE

About 10 000 years ago, the ice mass retreated from the Baltic Sea and land uplift closed the connection to the North Sea.





DIET

Prefer vegetarian meals and eat sustainably caught fish (roach, herring, vendace or perch) twice a week instead of meat meals. Reduce dairy and other animal products.

DETERGENTS

Avoid unnecessary chemicals and plastics in everyday life. Choose eco-labelled products and detergents.

CONSUMPTION

Buy less, recycle and repair. Avoid single-use products.

BALTIC SEA ACTIONS

TRAVELLING

Travel near and across the country. Get around on foot, by bike, public transport and carpooling.

WASTE

Sort your waste correctly and collect rubbish, nicotine pouches and cigarette butts in the bin. Remember to take any unused medicines to the pharmacy.

THE SEA IS NOT A RUBBISH BIN OR A SEWER

So don't:

- Jump into the water whilst you are soapy.
- Dump anything in the water that doesn't belong there.

