



LUCIE PARSONS

AGE: 10 years old FROM: England - Yorkshire & Humber

“Grown-ups should listen to children, because children have good ideas and one of them could save this planet.”

After watching the BBC's Blue Planet 2 and seeing how plastic is killing animals in the ocean, I was very upset and decided to do something to make a difference. I asked some friends and their parents to help collect plastic litter in my village. I mapped where we'd found it, told the local council and informed the businesses who were causing the pollution so they could reduce the amount of plastic they were using.

The manager of The Deep, the aquarium in Hull, saw a poster I'd made about my litter collection and asked me to give a speech to 200 people at the European Union of Aquarium Curators conference. It was scary, but I did it. Afterwards, the Head of the EU Commission Environment Section signed up all the aquariums to a plastic pledge which he told me will save thousands of turtles' lives.

Over the past year, I've also visited the Scottish Parliament where I spoke with a member of the Scottish Youth Parliament. I also spoke with the Earth Day Network, who profiled my work to reduce plastic waste and pollution.

I've given talks at several local schools and recently spoke at the European Geosciences Union conference in Vienna, which had over 16,000 people at it, about why scientists should involve children more in their work on the environment and plastics.

It was exciting to be awarded with the 2019 Green Medal at the Viking FM Superhero Awards night, but there's still so much to do.

I'm now an ambassador with Kids Against Plastic, I'm going to continue to present my data on plastic pollution to the local council, and I want to carry on engaging with governments on social action.

If I talk about what I've done and even one or two people do something about it, it will make a difference. I'm determined to make change happen.



ORGANISATIONS I'VE WORKED WITH

#KIDSAGAINSTPLASTIC; THE DEEP AQUARIUM

CHARACTER STRENGTHS

LEADERSHIP, CONFIDENCE, COMMUNICATION, RESILIENCE, PERSEVERANCE AND DETERMINATION, CITIZENSHIP

