Nurdle Teacher notes – by Claire Vowell and Jo Joof

Nurdle is a tiny microplastic used to make all plastic products. He is not being looked after properly and he is getting in all of the wrong places causing big problems.

Nurdle is a children’s book about microplastics. It explains in gentle rhyming text how nurdles (tiny plastic pellets the size of a lentil) are escaping into our rivers and oceans. It also shows they problems that they cause, such as being eaten by animals.

Nurdle is illustrated with ocean plastic artwork and genuine beach finds alongside beautiful water colours. The main characters are simple and engaging and easy for children to identify with.

Nurdle can be read with younger children as part of a project on the seashore and the ocean, but the central themes of Nurdle are a good starting point for older key stage children to explore.

The main theme of the book is the reduction of single use plastics.

“The less plastics we use the less nurdles get free, polluting the land and the rivers and sea”

Super Nurdle, the hero of the text, asks the children to reduce, reuse and recycle and think about the things that they are buying as nurdles can now be found on MOST beaches in the UK.

The book has been written with the support of Fidra, the charity working to remove microplastics from the ocean.

Claire Vowell is a Somerset Teacher of over 20 years, who has completed ocean clean ups for the last ten years. She started to share her findings and the things that she discovered with her class and gradually Nurdle was born. She is very happy to answer any questions your class have!

Free lesson ideas and resources linked to Nurdle can be found on TES and [www.nurdlenerd.co.uk](http://www.nurdlenerd.co.uk)

Just search Nurdle.

You can also follow his adventures on Instagram @Nurdlenerd @Seaborndesign

