

## QUIZ: PLASTIC IS NOT SO FANTASTIC!



1. True or False? Most of the PET plastic we put in the recycling bin is shipped to Asia to be recycled.



2. What percentage of Australia's PET plastic is recycled?
- a) 85%
  - b) 53%
  - c) 25%

3. In 2011/12, Keep Australia Beautiful conducted a branded litter survey, sorting and counting more than 10,000 litter items that showed a brand. Which of these brands contributes the most to the national litter problem?



- a) McDonald's
- b) Coca Cola
- c) Cadbury Schweppes
- d) Coles



Debris littered across a beach on Christmas Island. Image from [www.csiro.au](http://www.csiro.au).

4. The CSIRO surveyed the density of plastic in Australian waters. How many pieces of plastic did they find in one square kilometre?
- a) 40,000
  - b) 1,000
  - c) 100,000

***"We found that 43 per cent of seabirds have plastic in their gut. Globally, nearly half of all seabird species are likely to ingest debris, eating everything from balloons to glow sticks, industrial plastic pellets, rubber, foam and string."***

*CSIRO researcher Dr Denise Hardesty.*



5. The CSIRO survey also looked at plastic in seabirds. What percentage of seabirds surveyed were found to have plastic in their gut?
- a) 5%
  - b) 20%
  - c) 53%



6. How many plastic bags do Australians use **each day**?
- a) 1 million
  - b) 2 million
  - c) 10 million



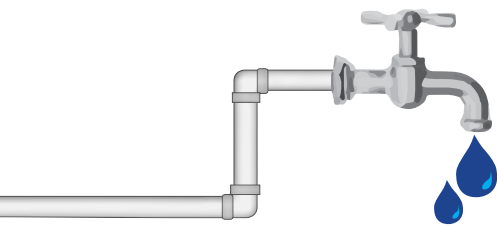
7. True or False? Some brands of bottled water are just filtered tap water.
8. Which of these is the most sustainable and important thing to do?
- a) Recycle your plastic bottles (recycle)
  - b) Say no to plastic and bring your own drink bottle(reduce)
  - c) Reuse your plastic bottle a few times by refilling it (reuse)
  - d) Throw your plastic bottle in a bin that goes to landfill



9. In 2013, Caloundra Music Festival (QLD) banned the sale of bottled water and provided free tap water for festival goers. During the four-day festival, how many plastic bottles did the festival save?
- a) 5,000
  - b) 10,000
  - c) 20,000

# QUIZ ANSWERS: PLASTIC IS NOT SO FANTASTIC!

1. True. In 2011/12, 62,000 tonnes of PET plastic was recycled in Australia (approximately half of what we use). Of this, 47,000 tonnes was sent overseas for processing.
2. b) 53%, and that means the other 47% goes to landfill or ends up as litter.
3. a) McDonald's (followed by Coca Cola).
4. a) 40,000 (The CSIRO found that the density of plastic in Australian waters ranges from a few thousand to more than 40,000 per square kilometre).
5. c) 53%



There are a few short podcasts on the CSIRO website from researcher, Denise Hardesty, about what marine debris is, how it impacts wildlife and tips on solving the problem. You could listen to these as part of this quiz.

[www.csiro.au/Portals/Media/Plastic-on-the-coasts-is-ours.aspx](http://www.csiro.au/Portals/Media/Plastic-on-the-coasts-is-ours.aspx)

6. c) 10 million
7. True, at least two brands that we know of come from municipal sources (the same source as our tap water).
8. b) Reduce is at the top of the waste hierarchy. It's best to say no to plastic and bring your own bottle.
9. c) 20,000

## Source:

1. 2011/12 National Plastics Recycling Survey (Australian) , page 6 [www.pacia.org.au/Library/PageContentVersionAttachment/b32ecc28-36a3-4087-bd68-33a889cf9aef/r02\\_05\\_a10802\\_nprs\\_2011\\_12\\_report.pdf](http://www.pacia.org.au/Library/PageContentVersionAttachment/b32ecc28-36a3-4087-bd68-33a889cf9aef/r02_05_a10802_nprs_2011_12_report.pdf)
2. 2011/12 National Plastics Recycling Survey (Australian) , page 6 [www.pacia.org.au/Library/PageContentVersionAttachment/b32ecc28-36a3-4087-bd68-33a889cf9aef/r02\\_05\\_a10802\\_nprs\\_2011\\_12\\_report.pdf](http://www.pacia.org.au/Library/PageContentVersionAttachment/b32ecc28-36a3-4087-bd68-33a889cf9aef/r02_05_a10802_nprs_2011_12_report.pdf)
3. Keep Australia Beautiful, National Branded Litter Study Annual Results 2011/12 <http://kab.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2013/02/KAB-National-Branded-Litter-Study-11-12.pdf>
4. CSIRO [www.csiro.au/Portals/Media/Plastic-on-the-coasts-is-ours.aspx](http://www.csiro.au/Portals/Media/Plastic-on-the-coasts-is-ours.aspx)
5. CSIRO [www.csiro.au/Portals/Media/Plastic-on-the-coasts-is-ours.aspx](http://www.csiro.au/Portals/Media/Plastic-on-the-coasts-is-ours.aspx)
6. Keep Australia Beautiful WA, Plastic Bag Factsheet [www.kabc.wa.gov.au/litter-information.html](http://www.kabc.wa.gov.au/litter-information.html)
7. Waste Wise Schools, email communication directly from brands.
8. Waste Authority, waste hierarchy [www.wasteauthority.wa.gov.au/publications/waste-hierarchy](http://www.wasteauthority.wa.gov.au/publications/waste-hierarchy)
9. Caloundra Music Festival [www.caloundramusicfestival.com/about/keep-it-green/byo-h2o-bottle-campaign](http://www.caloundramusicfestival.com/about/keep-it-green/byo-h2o-bottle-campaign)