



Oil Spills!

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Why do we need oil?

- We need oil to run cars, planes, boats, and trucks.
- In order to get the oil we need to use these things, we have to drill for the oil.
- Ocean oil wells are only one place where we drill for oil.
- Oil is also drilled out the ground with an oil well.



What is an oil spill?

- Common types of oil spills include oil tanker crashes, dumping of oil, or equipment failures at ocean oil wells.
 - Example - When the workers are asked by their boss to flush out old oil and replace it with new oil, the workers flush out that oil into the water. The old oil is now in the ocean. But they might not sell the new oil, so this happens again and again!
 - Example - If a piece of equipment fails, then oil can spill into the ocean before it is even put onto a ship!



FACT

The largest oil spill, the 2010 BP Oil Spill, was created by an equipment failure in an ocean oil well.



FACT

Eleven workers from the BP Oil Company died when the oil well exploded to create the BP Oil Spill.




FACT

The BP Oil Spill spilled oil for 87 days!



FACT

The BP Oil Company had to pay \$14.3 billion in fines and for damages to the environment.




Why should we respond to oil spills?

- If an oil spill happens, then the ocean gets polluted with severe consequences.
- Oil is a toxic material that can cause environmental damage.
- Oil is poisonous to living creatures.



The following animals are harmed by oil spills:

- Fish
- Sea Otters
- Sea Gulls
- More Birds
- Many Other Sea Animals
- Snails
- Clams



How are animals hurt by oil spills?

- It hurts the animals because they can not fly or swim with oil on themselves and means they could drown.
- For many animals, the ability to control their body temperature depends on their fur staying clean. Oil on their fur can cause animals to freeze to death or over heat.
- It affects the food chain causing other animals that eat water-living creatures to be poisoned or get oil on themselves when hunting.



A dead turtle floats on a pool of oil from the Deepwater Horizon oil spill in Barataria Bay off the coast of Louisiana, Monday, June, 7, 2010. (AP Photo/Charlie Riedel)



A dolphin lies dead on a beach on Horn Island, in the Gulf of Mexico, Tuesday, May 11, 2010. Officials say that at least six dead dolphins have been found on the Gulf Coast since May 2. Authorities don't know whether the animals died from the Oil in the Gulf. (AP Photo/Mike Stewart)



How can we stop oil spills?

- Do not use oil
- Drive electric cars
- Walk and bike to close places
- Use public transportation
- Choose wind and solar energy



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