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SCIENCE Reading Comprehension – Key Stage 2 – Year 4

The Great Ocean Cleanup Project

One of the most amazing projects in the world today is called The Great Ocean Cleanup. It was started by a young scientist named Boyan Slat, who wanted to find a way to clean up the plastic pollution in our oceans. Every year, millions of tons of plastic waste end up in the sea, which harms marine animals and damages the environment. Boyan knew something had to be done to protect our oceans, so he came up with a clever idea to solve this huge problem.

When Boyan was just 18 years old, he invented a special machine that could float on the water and collect plastic waste. The machine works like a giant net, trapping the plastic as it moves through the ocean. The collected plastic is then recycled and turned into new products, like sunglasses and bags, which helps reduce waste on land too.

The Great Ocean Cleanup project has already removed tons of plastic from the ocean. It has inspired people all around the world to think about how they can help keep our planet clean. Scientists believe that



if we keep working together and using projects like this, we can make our oceans safe for animals and protect the environment for future generations.

This project is a great example of how science can be used to solve problems and make the world a better place. Boyan Slat's idea shows us that even young people can make a big difference when they use their creativity and scientific knowledge to help the planet.

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- 1. Who started The Great Ocean Cleanup project?
- 2. What problem does the Great Ocean Cleanup aim to solve?
- 3. How does Boyan Slat's machine work to clean the ocean?
- 4. What are some of the products made from the recycled plastic?
- 5. At what age did Boyan Slat invent the machine for cleaning the ocean?
- 6. How has The Great Ocean Cleanup project inspired people around the world?
- 7. Why is it important to remove plastic from the ocean?
- 8. What lesson can we learn from Boyan Slat's project about the role of science in helping the planet?

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MARK SCHEME

- 1. The Great Ocean Cleanup project was started by Boyan Slat.
- 2. The project aims to solve the problem of plastic pollution in the oceans.
- 3. Boyan Slat's machine floats on the water like a giant net and collects plastic waste as it moves through the ocean.
- 4. The recycled plastic is used to make products like sunglasses and bags.
- 5. Boyan Slat was 18 years old when he invented the machine to clean the ocean.
- 6. The project has inspired people to think about how they can help keep the planet clean and protect the oceans.
- 7. It is important to remove plastic from the ocean because it harms marine animals and damages the environment.
- 8. We learn that science can solve big problems, and even young people can make a big difference when they use their creativity and knowledge.