

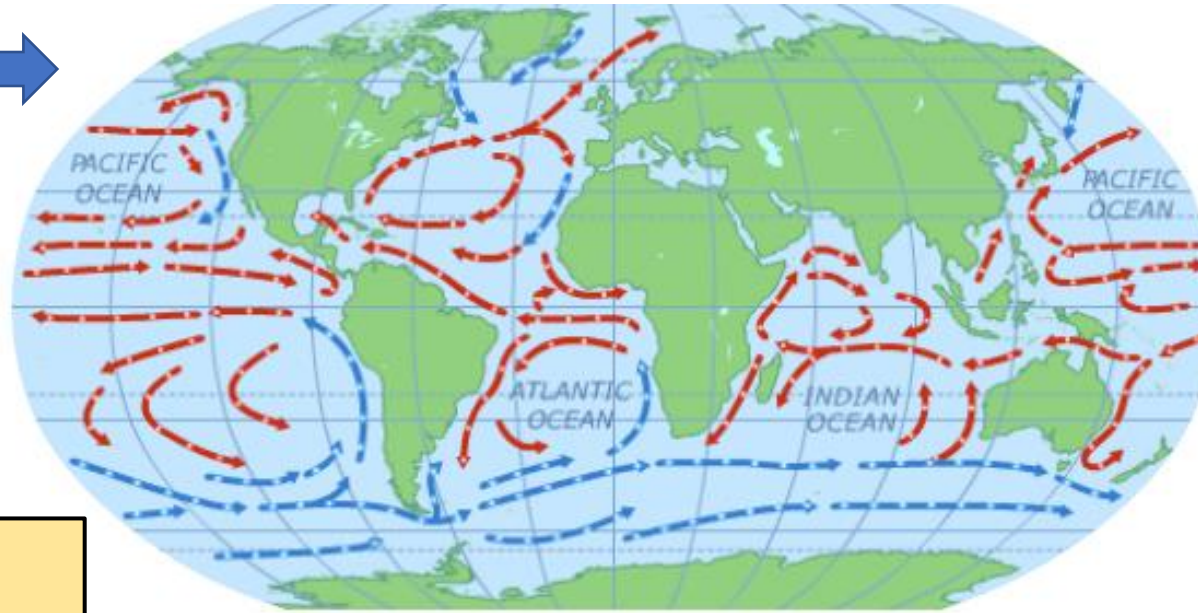
Year 5 and 6 Geography Knowledge Organiser – Ocean Currents

The main ocean currents of the world.

What is an ocean current?

An ocean current is a continuous movement of ocean water from one place to another.

Ocean currents are created by wind, water temperature, salt content and the gravity of the moon.



The Great Pacific Garbage Patch

In the middle of the northern Pacific Ocean lies a large area of rubbish, known as the Great Pacific Garbage Patch.

It formed because the gyres are circular, which traps rubbish, like floating pieces of plastic.



What I Already Know...

- An ocean is a large area of sea.
- There are five oceans in the world: the Arctic Ocean, the Atlantic Ocean, the Indian Ocean, the Pacific Ocean and the Southern Ocean.
- The biggest ocean is the Pacific Ocean.
- Oceans are made up of saline water and cover about three quarters of the Earth's surface.
- Oceans that are enclosed are called seas. The closest seas to the UK are the North Sea, Irish Sea and the English Channel.

How do ocean currents affect the weather?

They transport warm water to colder areas and cold water to warmer ones.



Vocabulary

Meaning

continuous	Happening all the of the time without a break.
gyres	circular movements
pollution	A poisonous or dirty substance.
garbage	American word for rubbish.