



Lotion in the ocean

Suncream is good for people because it stops our skin being damaged by the sun, but these creams could harm creatures in the sea.

Putting on suncream is very important because it prevents sunburn. Not only is sunburn very painful but it can damage the skin and cause illness.

Suncream gets into sea water when people go swimming. Until now no one has thought about how it affects sea creatures. To find the answer, experts looked closely at water from a busy beach in Spain.

They found that when sunlight hits the particles in suncream, it makes another particle which is bad for the tiniest creatures in the sea. These creatures are so small you can't see them. You might think creatures this small aren't important, but bigger creatures eat them, and slightly bigger creatures eat those ones, and even bigger animals eat these! Although this isn't great news for sea creatures, only very small amounts of suncream get into the water. Don't stop putting on your suncream!

Suncream gets into the water at busy beaches.



Discussion Questions

Lotion in the ocean

FirstNews

Issue 428

29th Aug - 4th Sept 2014



1) This story comes from which section of the newspaper?
Look at the bar at the top to find out.

Sport

The Week Ahead

Science

2) Why do you think the story belongs in this section of the paper?

3) Explain why it is important to put on suncream.

4) What happens when sunlight hits the suncream in the water?

5) Why are the very tiny sea creatures actually very important?

6) What is the **headline** of this story? (A headline is the title of a news story.)

7) Why is this a good headline?

8) Why do you think the writer has included the last paragraph?



Learning through news

www.FirstNews.co.uk/forschools