

Ocean System

Ocean



KNOW:

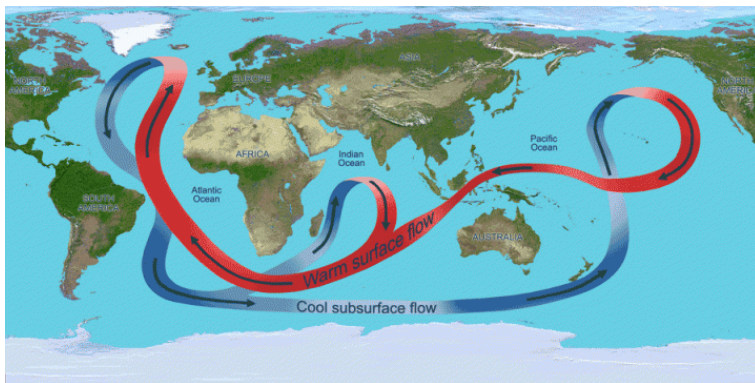
The ocean moves around the world, caused by changes in salt, density and temperature
The movement of the ocean controls our climate

The great conveyor belt

There are two main conveyors of water in the ocean:

i) wind blowing across the surface and;

ii) deep sea rising and sinking of water of different temperatures and densities



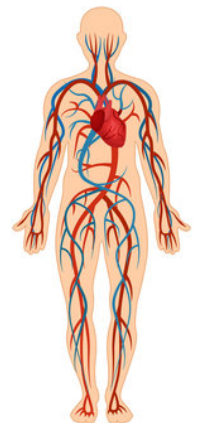
www.ces.fau.edu

Try an ocean conveyor Mexican wave!

Draw the map (left) in the sand or on the ground using (preferably red and blue) coloured chalk, or string. Spread participants out across the map. Imagine a body of water, rising, falling and being blown around the world. Participants need to rise and fall (crouch or stretch) as the ocean energy passes around the map i.e. moving 'up' is warm, less dense water rising and moving 'down' is cold, more dense water sinking. Good luck, discuss and have fun!

The human ocean

The ocean has health, like the human body and can worsen over time if it's not looked after. Comparing the ocean to a human body is a powerful way to understand its functions.



Mindful moment...

Lay on the ground (beach, board, floor or whatever you prefer) and stretch out your body. Tune in to your breathing and your heart beat. Imagine your breath as a wave rising and falling, ebbing and flowing through your body. Imagine next your heart beat pumping a current of energy to its deepest depths and the furthest shores. Imagine a drop of water passing from your heart and around every organ and limb. Just to make you laugh, follow this up with a discussion of what other parts of the human body we can compare with the ocean....maybe even draw your idea if you like!

Case study: El Nino

El Nino is a powerful climatic system that affects both the Pacific and Atlantic realms of the ocean. Watch this WMO video to explain: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AcwpLNi70ts>

El Nino has some very significant affects on weather, climate and communities, but is it all bad, are there not winners AND losers? Get the group to research, present, debate and reflect on this question, using visuals where possible. See resources below to start...

Extra resources

- <https://ncas.ac.uk/what-does-el-nino-mean-for-our-weather-climate-economy-and-health/>
- <https://www.imf.org/external/pubs/ft/fandd/2016/03/cashin.htm>
- <https://www.weather.gov/tae/enso>

