

# SOURCES OF PLASTIC AND ITS LIFE CYCLE

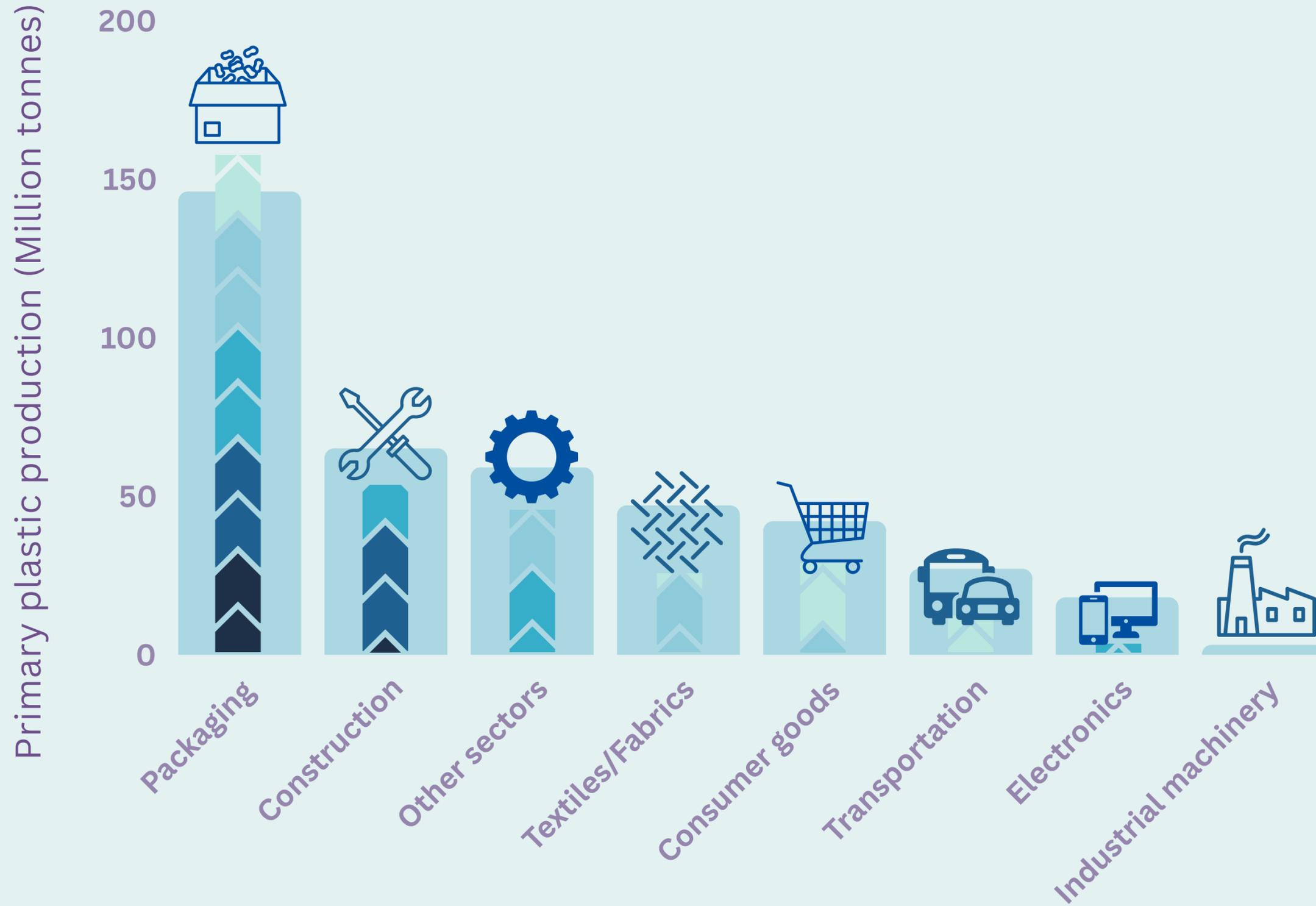
# DISCUSSION

HOW DO WE ALL USE  
PLASTIC?



**PLASTIC USES**

# INDUSTRY PLASTIC PRODUCTION



# BUT WHERE IS ALL THIS PLASTIC GOING?

**9%**  
IS RECYCLED

**12%**  
IS BURNT

**78%**  
GOES TO  
LANDFILL

**1%**  
GOES INTO THE  
OCEAN

# SOURCES OF OCEAN PLASTIC



**MISMANAGED  
PLASTIC WASTE  
(LITTER)**

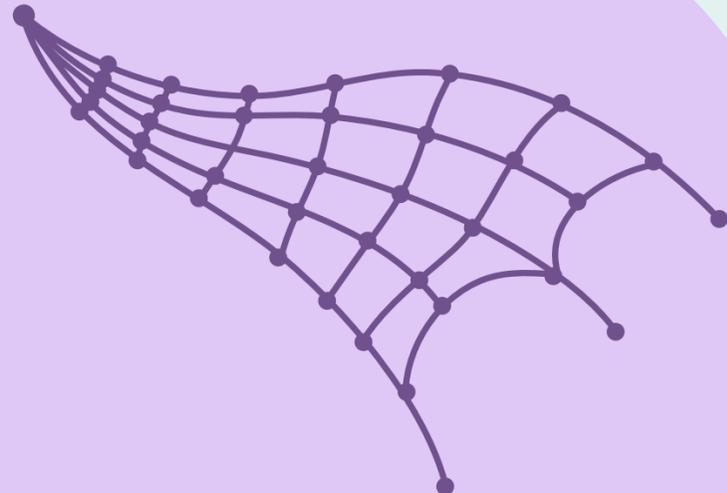


**SEA-BASED PLASTIC  
DEBRIS**



**MICROPLASTICS**

# EXAMPLES



## FISHING NETS

ENOUGH LOST AT SEA  
EVERY YEAR TO  
CIRCLE EARTH MORE  
THAN 18 TIMES



## CLOTHING

NEARLY 70 BILLION  
ITEMS ARE MADE OF  
PLASTIC EACH YEAR



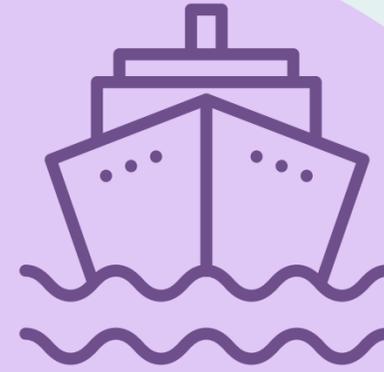
## FIBRES

ONE MILLION  
MICROPLASTICS PER  
LOAD OF WASHING

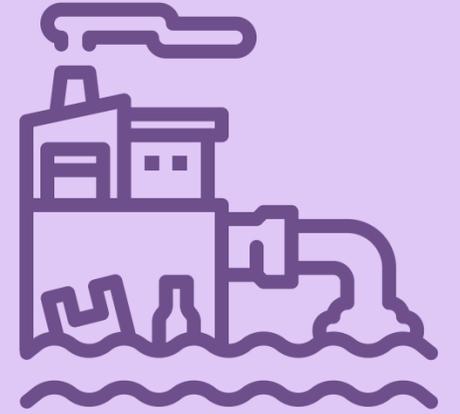
# PATHWAYS



WIND



DIRECT INPUT  
TO OCEANS



WASTEWATER



ATMOSPHERE



RIVERS



RUNOFF (E.G. URBAN,  
AG, INDUSTRY)

# DISCUSSION POINTS

## LOCAL SOURCES

HAS ANYONE EVER FOUND PLASTIC ON THE BEACH  
THAT THEY CAN RECOGNISE THE SOURCE OF?

# SEA SHEPHERD & DHIMURRU ABORIGINAL CORPORATION

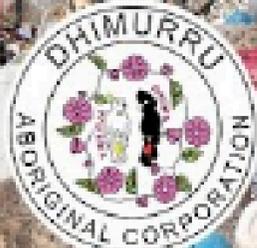


A returning tide of trash: Djulpan 2022

A RETURNING TIDE OF TRASH:  
**DJULPAN 2022**

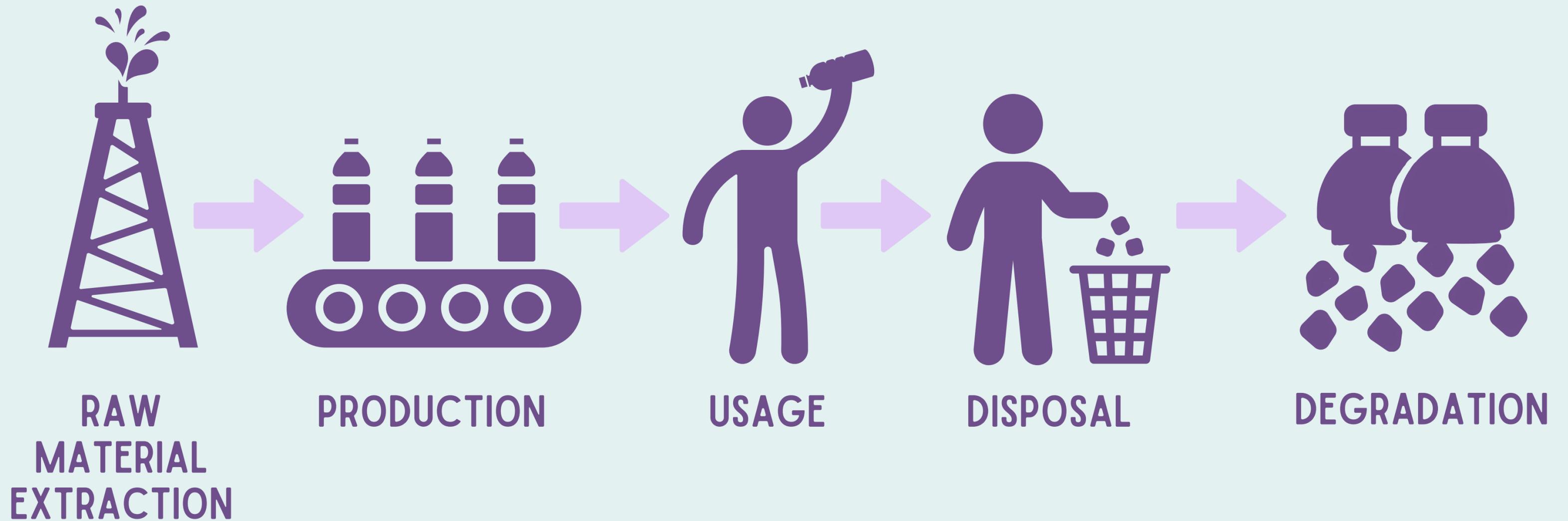
Share

Watch on  YouTube

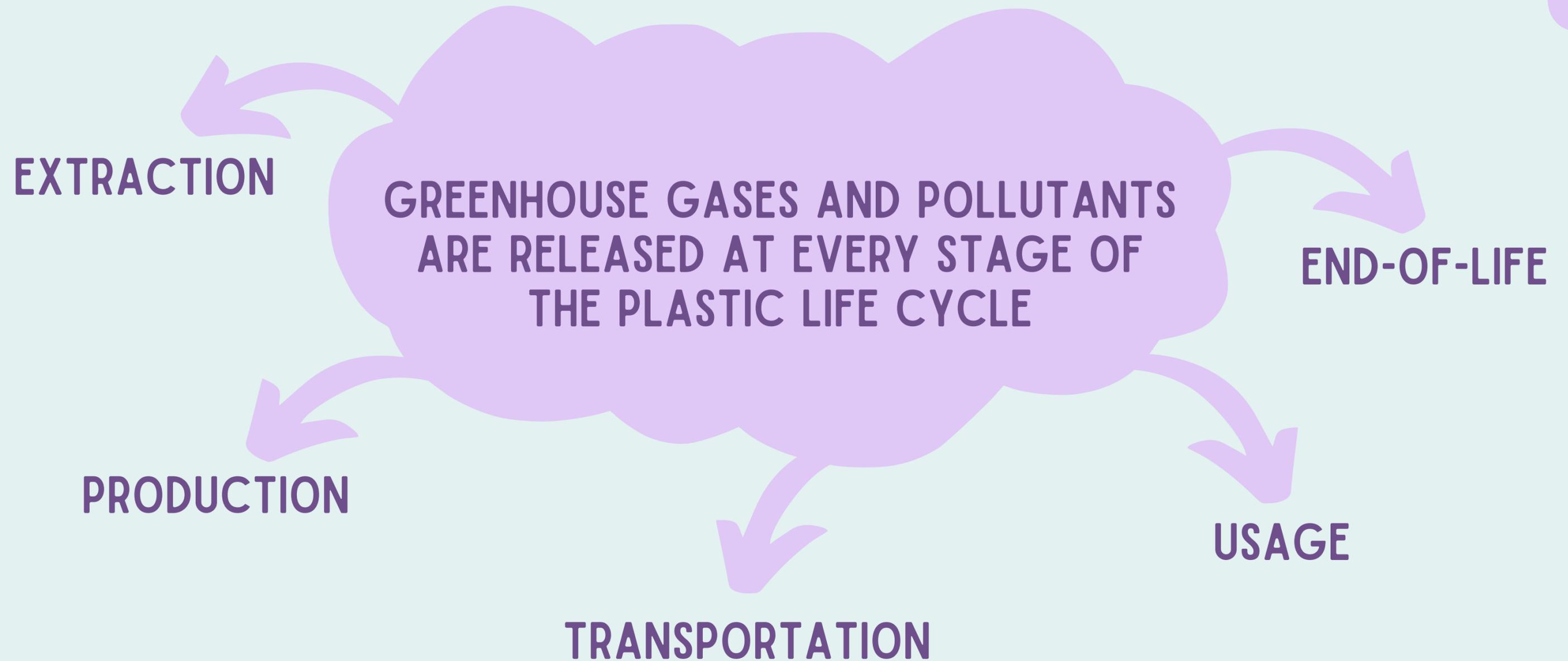
  

The image is a YouTube video thumbnail. It features a background photograph of a beach completely covered in a thick layer of plastic and other debris. The sky is clear and blue. Overlaid on the top left is a small circular icon with a skull and crossed tools, followed by the text 'A returning tide of trash: Djulpan 2022'. In the top right corner, there is a 'Share' button with a right-pointing arrow. The main title 'A RETURNING TIDE OF TRASH: DJULPAN 2022' is written in large, white, distressed-style capital letters across the upper half of the image. A red YouTube play button is centered over the middle of the beach. At the bottom left, there is a black bar with the text 'Watch on' and the YouTube logo. At the bottom center, three circular logos are displayed: the Sea Shepherd logo, the Sea Shepherd Marine Debris Campaign logo, and the Dhimurru Aboriginal Corporation logo.

# LIFE CYCLE OF PLASTIC



# PLASTIC EMISSIONS



# THE END-OF-LIFE CYCLE OF PLASTIC

PLASTIC CAN TAKE HUNDREDS OF YEARS TO BREAKDOWN

PLASTIC DOES NOT BIODEGRADE LIKE ORGANIC MATERIALS

IT BREAKS INTO SMALLER PIECES CALLED MICROPLASTICS

EVEN THEN

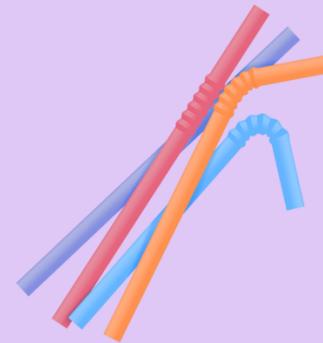
# BREAKDOWN TIMES FOR COMMON ITEMS



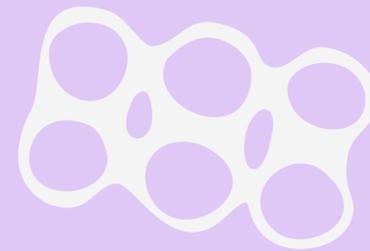
PLASTIC BAG  
20 YEARS



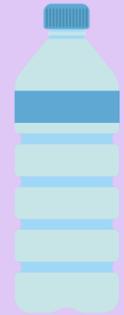
COFFEE CUP  
30 YEARS



PLASTIC STRAW  
200 YEARS



6-PACK RINGS  
400 YEARS



PLASTIC BOTTLE  
450 YEARS



PLASTIC CUP  
450 YEARS



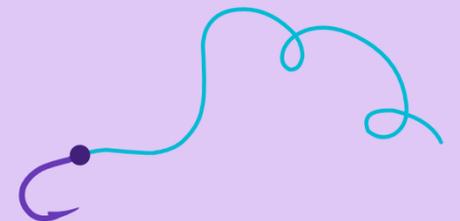
COFFEE POD  
500 YEARS



DISPOSABLE NAPPY  
500 YEARS



TOOTHBRUSH  
500 YEARS



FISHING LINE  
600 YEARS

# LIFE CYCLE OF PLASTIC

THE LIFE CYCLE OF A PLASTIC BOTTLE

What really happens to the plastic you throw away - Emma Bryce

Watch on YouTube

Share

The image is a YouTube video thumbnail. The background is dark grey with a pattern of white and light blue plastic waste, including bottle caps, crumpled paper, and a plastic bottle. The title 'THE LIFE CYCLE OF A PLASTIC BOTTLE' is written in large, bold, white letters with a blue shadow effect. A red play button icon is centered over the word 'PLASTIC'. In the top left corner, there is a TED Ed logo and the text 'What really happens to the plastic you throw away - Emma Bryce'. In the top right corner, there is a red circular button with a white arrow and the text 'Share'. In the bottom left corner, there is a black bar with the text 'Watch on' and the YouTube logo.

# **PRACTICAL**

**COMPLETE THE WORKSHEET ABOUT  
PLASTIC SOURCES**