



NEWS DETECTIVES

TODAY'S NEWS STORY

Island finds sponsors to save paradise

KEYWORDS

- ☐ **Conserve:**
Protect from destruction
- ☐ **Vital:** Very important
- ☐ **Sponsor:**
Give financial support
- ☐ **Island states:**
A country made up of islands



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BUILD YOUR KNOWLEDGE

Niue is a tiny island with just 2,000 people that is partly governed by nearby New Zealand. The island's government is asking for donations to conserve its crystal clear waters — which are home to dolphins, eels, sharks and other animals — from climate change.

A tiny island near New Zealand is asking for donations to **conserve** its natural environment. But is it possible to put a price on nature?

Island paradise

The island of Niue is home to breathtaking nature, including a range of amazing animals, from sea snakes to whales.

The ocean is **vital** to the culture of its small population.

“Ever since we were little, the ocean has been a part

of our lives,” says islander Daryn Magatogia.

Sponsorship scheme

The island has come up with a new plan to conserve these waters. It has been running since September 2023 and involves asking people and companies to **sponsor** a square kilometre of the ocean for £116 each.

But this doesn't mean you get to own that piece of ocean! “We are not selling real estate,” stresses Coral Pasisi,

president of the charity handling the initiative.

Climate crisis

Pacific **island states** like Niue are struggling with the impacts of climate change, especially rising sea levels. The scheme aims to manage this threat by protecting the ocean and financially supporting local fishers.

“What we enjoy today is what we inherited from the past, and we are going to make sure that continues,” says Prime Minister Dalton Tagelagi.





INVESTIGATION OF THE DAY

WHY DO OUR OCEANS MATTER?

WHAT
is important
to the culture
of Niue?

WHO
is Niue's prime
minister?

WHERE
is Niue?

WHEN
did the
scheme
begin?

WHY
are Pacific island
states under
threat?

HOW
much does
sponsorship
cost?

1 TAKE ACTION

Did you know that charities around the world also run sponsorship schemes to protect endangered species? It's true! You can even adopt animals in different parts of the world. This could be a great birthday gift for you, a member of your family, or a friend! Why not do some research on the different animals and habitats that nature charities can help you sponsor.



2 SHARE YOUR IDEAS

What have you found out in your investigation? Write, present or even record a piece that shows the different animals and natural areas that people can sponsor. Share what you've learned with your family and friends. What do they think? We want to hear your ideas too! Your teacher can share your reports with us too by sending them to editorial@theday.co.uk.

3 Build THE Change



CREATE YOUR DESIGN

Conservation isn't just about saving island paradises! All natural environments are precious. Think about a nearby green space that you love. How would you save it if it came under threat?

STEP 1:

Think about your design! Would you build fences to keep people out? Or run a campaign to raise awareness of the issue?

STEP 2:

Build your bird palace! Create a model of a natural space that is important to you. If you have time, make a model using LEGO® bricks or recycled materials.

Share your genius
Show your work
to your class!



Upload a photo of your work to the **Build the Change** gallery by scanning the QR code and have your work displayed to inspire real-world change.



4 BUILDER OF THE WEEK

Every week we handpick one of the most inspirational designs from our online photo gallery to be our **BUILDER OF THE WEEK**. To get your creation featured here, ask your grown up to take a photograph and upload it to our Build the Change gallery, using the QR code on this page.



This week we have a small rocket that sucks up plastic from the ocean and recycles it.

"GREAT WORK!"



This worksheet is available every weekday at 6:30am London time from <https://theday.co.uk/resources/news-detectives>.
For any feedback or help please contact buildthechange@theday.co.uk. Thank you.

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