

Beach clean resource pack for secondary

Ages 11–16



Introduction

Always wanted to become a citizen scientist? Taking part in a beach clean or litter survey helps you do just that. Whether you live inland or near the coast, all the data you collect on the beach, your street, local park or school grounds helps support campaigns for change.

The data collected by volunteers has been used to make the case for the single-use carrier bag charges across the UK, and more recently in campaigns for Deposit Return Schemes for all types of drinks containers.



Taking part

Taking part in a litter survey is simple – download your survey form, grab some gloves or litter pickers and head outside. Running a litter survey gives students an opportunity to see the impact of litter in the environment first-hand, while helping your school meet its sustainability goals and supporting students to develop a sense of social responsibility for their local environment.

The [Great British Beach Clean](#) is a great time to get involved, with thousands of people heading to the coast to clear litter and record what they find during a week in September. If you can't make it to the beach, no problem! That's where the [Source to Sea Litter Survey](#) comes in. All the data you collect on the beach, on your street or in a local park, helps us campaign for change.



About this pack

The activities in this pack link to learning in Geography, Science, English, ICT, Citizenship and Maths. They've been designed to teach young people about the marine litter problem and how we can all have an impact on it.

You could even weave the learning into a cross-curricular project – for example, students could start by exploring our coasts and seas in Geography, evaluating survey techniques in Science, presenting data in ICT and analysing it in Maths. You could then bring it all together in a Citizenship discussion about societal behaviour or share what you've learned with your school.

UN Sustainable Development Goals:



Plan your litter survey

It's time to head out on a litter pick and survey your local area!

Use our beach clean guidance if you're by the coast, or our Source to Sea guidance if you're inland.

Guidance and advice

Beach cleans

Use the [beach clean survey form](#) to record the litter you find and read the [guidance](#) on how to run a beach clean with your school or group. If you have any questions about leading a beach clean, please contact beachwatch@mcsuk.org.

Source to Sea

Head out to your local river, street, park or even school grounds. Collect the litter you find and tally it up or tick it off on the [Source to Sea survey form](#). This data can then be added to our national dataset via our website. Head to our [Source to Sea page](#) for more information.

Alternative activity

If you're unable to take your school or group out into the local area, you could discuss the litter items included on the survey forms. Which items have learners seen in the local area? Which ones do they have in their homes that could end up as litter?

Discussion could then centre around which items are 'new' types of litter (e.g. Covid-related items), how items end up as litter, and which items could be recycled or avoided completely. Older learners could debate whether single-use items should be banned.



Plan your litter survey

Before

- Choose the location for your litter pick and survey to suit the age and ability of your group, working away from roads.
- Equipment list:
 - Sturdy shoes
 - Gloves – ideally gardening-style gloves
 - Litter pickers or metal tongs, which make good improvised pickers
 - Bin bags
 - Hand sanitiser
 - Waterproofs or sunscreen – whichever is needed!
 - First aid kit
- Check and update your risk assessment on the day, running through the safety guidelines with the group and setting clear expectations for behaviour. Have a rule regarding alerting a supervising adult if anything sharp, dangerous or nasty is found and make sure any cuts are covered up.
- Use either the [beach clean form](#) or [Source to Sea form](#) to record the litter. Run through the survey forms before you start to ensure everyone knows how to record the data.
- If using our Source to Sea form, learners should use the [fact file](#) in this pack to understand why we're asking them to record these items and follow this up with a group discussion.

During

- Remind learners not to touch their faces when litter picking and to use hand sanitiser often.
- Put any sharp items in a separate bucket or container and not in your bin bag whilst litter picking.
- Make sure you take photos and share them with us on social media or email us at email.education@mcsuk.org including your group name.

After

- Everyone should wash their hands with soap and water as soon as possible.
- Clean your litter picking kit thoroughly with household disinfectant.
- Snap a photo of your Source to Sea or beach clean survey and share it on social media.
- Upload your data to our national [Source to Sea](#) or [beach clean](#) databases. Explain to your group that the data they collected will be analysed and used to inform our campaign work.

Curriculum-linked activity suggestions



Geography

To understand the concept of 'source to sea,' follow a local river on its journey to the coast. Pupils could use online maps like [Google Earth](#) to locate the nearest river, estimate how many miles it is from the sea and explore physical and societal factors along the river which could influence the amount of litter entering the waterway.



Science

Running a Source to Sea Litter Survey is a great way to develop scientific report writing skills. Students could write up and evaluate the data collection method used. Students could then design their own scientific experiment on marine litter to build on what they've learnt. For example, they could explore how long it takes various litter items to degrade in landfill and saltwater conditions.



Citizenship

Learners could use this project as a case study to research how people can make a difference in society. Thinking creatively, they could suggest problem-solving ideas and develop a campaign to highlight the litter problem in their local community. Litter data that has been collected and analysed should be included to highlight the problem on a local level.



Sociology

Explore the societal behaviours that have led to the problem of plastic pollution in our environment. For example, students could discuss the environmental impacts of consumer culture and a throwaway society. Have a group discussion about opportunities to influence personal and societal behaviours and effect positive change.



Politics

As a group, discuss and debate the political opportunities to reduce the impact of marine litter on the environment. Use the Marine Conservation Society as a case study to research how our past and current [campaigns](#) aim to bring about political change. What methods are used and what influence have these campaigns had?

Curriculum-linked activity suggestions



10-year dataset

We've collated 10 years' worth of Great British Beach Clean data from around the UK for your group to explore. Download it here: [10-year dataset](#).

The data has been standardised to show average litter totals per 100m of beach. In some cases, our surveys are conducted over more than the standard 100m in our survey protocol, and to compare results, they need to be standardised. This should make the data a bit easier to interpret and manipulate, but you could also tailor this further depending on your current focus and the age of your group.

If you have any questions about the data provided, please get in touch at education@mcsuk.org.

Please note that by downloading our data you're agreeing to our terms and conditions, namely that you will only use any data as part of your learning and for no other purposes.



Suggested analysis

- Explore patterns in a particular litter item or source over time, or look at the frequency of different materials seen in the data.
- Create pivot tables to help compare various elements of the data and practise using and filtering a large dataset.
- In groups or pairs, start analysing and interrogating the data to focus on a particular litter item, source or type of material, and develop a plan to reduce it.



ICT and Maths

Using the dataset provided and/or the data you collected on your litter pick, learners could use IT software to input, analyse and manipulate data in a spreadsheet. They could select appropriate graphs (pie chart, line chart, bar/column chart) and visualise the data accordingly.

Follow up



Don't forget to submit your results!



Reflect

Take time to reflect on what students have learned by asking the following questions:

- Why is it important that we all reduce the amount of waste we produce?
- How does collecting data help create positive change?
- What do you think is the most impactful change you personally could make: reduce, reuse or recycle?
- Are there any changes you are going to make to your life to reduce your personal impact on the environment?
- How are you going to share what you've learnt with others?



Follow up

If you're interested in engaging your students with more ocean content, explore our [lesson plans](#) and [YouTube videos](#) that cover topics including climate change, careers in conservation and biodiversity.



Keep in touch

If you have any questions about the activity suggestions or resources provided, please don't hesitate to contact us at education@mcsuk.org.

We'd love to see photos of your school or group out and about collecting litter – you can share them with us via email or social media using the following tags:

[f mcsuk](#) [@ mcs_uk](#)

Learning Team: education@mcsuk.org

Marine Litter Fact File



From source to sea

It is estimated that 11 million tonnes of plastic ends up in the sea worldwide each year (1), and that 80% of litter found in the sea is from inland sources (2).

Sources on land can include intentional and accidental littering, items flushed down toilets, sinks and drains, windblown litter from bins and landfills, and litter carried by rainwater into drains, rivers and eventually the sea. Litter is also a problem at sea, with sources like fishing, sailing, speed boats, commercial ships and container spills causing litter pollution.



Litter timeline

Litter in the ocean takes longer to degrade than litter on land, but will eventually start to break up due to wave action, currents, saltwater and sunlight. Degradation time varies greatly depending on the properties of the litter.

Microplastics are a serious environmental issue. They are plastics that have broken up into pieces less than 5mm. However, some plastics enter the environment this size already – like microfibres and plastic nurdles. Nurdles are the small plastic pellets used in the production of plastic products.

1. Pew, 2020
2. Europa, 2016

Marine Litter Fact File



Marine life and litter

Litter items can cause harm to all sorts of marine life, from tiny plankton to huge whales.

Animals can become entangled in litter, causing injury, reduced mobility and even death. Ingestion of litter, particularly plastic, is very problematic for marine life as they are unable to digest it. Large amounts of plastic ingestion can lead to starvation, as there is no room left for food. One study found 100% of turtles sampled to have plastic in their stomach (3). In some areas, the extreme amount of plastic on the sea floor can suffocate the animals and plants living there.

Invasive species

Ocean currents can move plastics around the world. Small animals and plants can hitch a ride on the surface of plastic and travel with the currents, introducing non-native species to new areas. The introduction of non-native species could cause harm to the ecosystem.

Plastic chemicals

Several chemicals used in the production of plastic materials are carcinogenic. Toxic contaminants can also accumulate on the surface of plastic materials that have broken up and been underwater for a long time. When marine animals ingest plastic accidentally, these toxic contaminants enter their digestive systems and could build up in the food web over time.



Gannet carrying fishing rope
📷 JHS Archer-Thomson



Microplastic pieces within seaweed
📷 Natasha Ewins

Marine Litter Fact File



Litter surveys

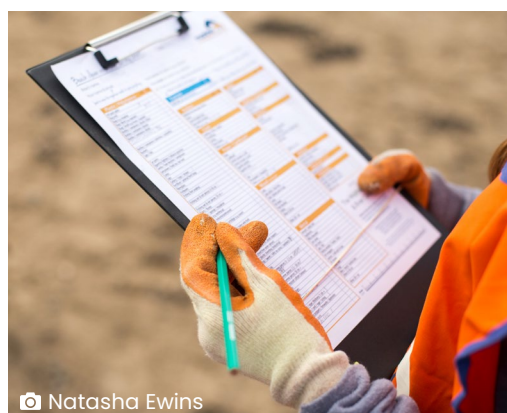
Litter surveys are not only important for clearing rubbish, but also for gathering data on the types of litter polluting our environment. [Beachwatch](#) is our national beach clean and survey initiative, and has been running for nearly 30 years. Our brilliant volunteers head out to beaches across the UK to clean and survey our coastline, collecting and recording the rubbish they find within a 100m stretch of beach. This litter data helps inform our campaigns and lobby government, and has led to influential changes like the UK-wide carrier bag charge, microbead bans and changes to wet wipe packaging.

We also use the data to determine the sources of litter. For example, if a significant amount of sewage-related debris (SRD) is found in an area, we work with local sewage treatment companies to try to improve treatment plants, and with communities to raise awareness of what should and shouldn't be flushed down the toilet.



Reducing litter

We all need to do our bit to reduce litter in the environment. By rethinking how we shop and what we use in our daily lives, we can all make a difference. Refusing unnecessary plastic and other materials, reducing the amount of products we consume, and repairing rather than replacing are all important actions we can take. Through education, we can help raise awareness, encourage positive consumer behaviour, and campaign for change from businesses and the government.



© Natasha Ewins



© Aled Ilywelyn

Marine Litter Fact File



Recycling

Even if we reduce the number of items we use, we will still need to throw some away. This is where efficient recycling is key. Download a guide from your local council to help students understand what can be recycled at home and at school. Many items can be recycled, but if your local council has limited recycling options check out [Terracycle's website](#) for local drop-off points.

Plastics can only be recycled at best 2-3 times before they lose their strength, so we still need to move away from plastics to materials that can be recycled time and time again. We need to change how products are recycled, and how we incentivise best practice to ensure materials and resources are valued. This could include redesigning products or calling for economic incentives like Deposit Return Schemes (DRS), where a small deposit is paid when consumers buy a single-use drinks container and is refunded when they return it to a store or dedicated recycling point.



Circular economy

We currently have an economy which is linear, which means we make, use and dispose of products using up finite resources. It's estimated that only 9% of all plastic ever made has been recycled (4), so we know that recycling alone isn't the solution. Instead we need to move towards a circular economy, where products are designed to be used time and again, repairable, or re-purposed as new products. The whole life cycle of the product has been considered, so very little ends up in landfill.



Litter collected at a beach clean
📷 Natasha Ewins



Single-use plastic straws
📷 Natasha Ewins

4. Geyer *et al.*, 2017

Source to Sea Fact File

Why your help matters

We know that litter from towns, parks and even the remotest country lanes often make their way into our ocean. **Every item dropped in the street has the potential to pollute our seas** by travelling down rivers and streams, being washed down drains or by being blown onto our beaches.

As part of our litter cleans, we collect data to track rubbish back to its source – our survey results are then used to find solutions to ocean pollution, and to campaign for measures to bring positive change.

We've used data collected in previous years to make the case for carrier bag charges across the UK, and are campaigning for Deposit Return Schemes for all types of drinks containers.

Great British Beach Clean

Takes place annually in September

Take part in a Source to Sea Litter Survey as part of the Great British Beach Clean. This September, there's something for everyone, everywhere. No matter where you live across the UK, you can help keep our seas clean.



Source to Sea Fact File

The Litter Survey items

We've chosen **14 items** to find out more about. By taking part in inland cleans, we can work together to keep our seas safe and healthy – for us all to enjoy.

What we're looking for – Food & drink containers

1. **Plastic drink bottles** – 9 billion drink containers are wasted each year by not being recycled, with many ending up in the ocean.



2. **Loose plastic cases/lids** – In the UK there is currently no legislation for lids to be tethered to bottles. We believe this small change could help reduce litter.



3. **Plastic drink cups** – An estimated 500 billion plastic cups are used each year around the world. They make their way from land sources into our ocean and harm marine life.



4. **Glass bottles** – Glass can easily be recycled back into glass. In the environment it can get broken and become pieces which can harm us and wildlife.



5. **Metal drink can** – We want all UK governments to continue taking urgent action and bring in their own Deposit Return Schemes.



Source to Sea Fact File

6. **Polystyrene fast food container** –

Polystyrene is a type of plastic. These containers break up into small pieces which are easily carried by the wind. Polystyrene can float at the surface and be eaten by marine wildlife.



7. **Polystyrene cups** – Polystyrene is very difficult to recycle and we want to see it banned across the UK.



8. **Paper cups** – It is estimated that the UK uses over 7 million disposable coffee cups every day. Lots of paper cups have an inner plastic lining and can be difficult to recycle.



In 2022, we found an average of 14 drinks-related litter items for every 100m of beach, and all these items were also found on 97% of inland cleans.

We want to see **Deposit Return Schemes** (DRS) introduced across the UK. A DRS works by charging consumers a small deposit on drinks-related items when they buy them. Customers then receive their money back when they return them for recycling, essentially giving these common litter items a value.

Scotland was due to introduce a DRS in 2024, but this has now been delayed and we hope to see compatible deposit return schemes implemented across the UK by 2027.



Source to Sea Fact File

What we're looking for – Plastic bags

- 9. Single-use plastic bags** – Since carrier bag charges were introduced, there has been an over 50% drop in the amount we find on our beaches.



- 10. Plastic bags for life** – Bags for life are made from thicker plastic and are designed to be used multiple times. However, we think some are still being disposed of, and could find their way into the sea.



Since charges were introduced across the UK, we've seen an over 50% drop in single-use plastic carrier bags on our beaches. We want to know if this drop can also be seen inland. Although there's been a charge on single-use plastic carrier bags for at least 5 years (Wales introduced it in 2011, Northern Ireland 2013, Scotland in 2014, England in 2015), 'bags for life' have been encouraged as a reusable alternative. But we suspect that these may still be used as a single-use item, and so still harming our environment.

What we're looking for – Wet wipes

- 11. Wet wipes** – Wet wipes are often found on beaches after being flushed down the toilet and finding their way to our ocean through drains. But they're also used and found around towns and cities.



In 2022, we found wet wipes on 61% of beach cleans and 44% of inland cleans. By tracking them back through the sewage system and their journey from our streets and parks, we can help put a stop to pollution.

Source to Sea Fact File

What we're looking for – **Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)**

12. Single-use face masks – We didn't see many people wearing these in everyday life before the pandemic, but now it's common place. Since the pandemic began there has been an increase in the amount of PPE found in our public spaces.



13. Single-use plastic gloves – Like face masks, we rarely saw these being used outside of medical settings and specialist jobs until 2020, when lots of people started wearing them.



PPE was really important during the pandemic, but unfortunately it wasn't always disposed of properly. In 2020, PPE was found on almost 70% of inland cleans. Thankfully, this has reduced to 27% in 2022 as PPE guidance has eased.

What we're looking for – **Balloons**

14. Balloons – In 2022, balloons were found on 29% of inland clean and 50% of beach cleans. Let us know how many you find.



Even balloons marketed as 'biodegradable' can last up to 4 years in the marine environment. Marine animals can ingest balloons or get tangled in balloon ribbons, restricting their movement and ability to eat. To reduce this threat, we want to get outdoor balloon and sky lantern releases stopped. Over 80 local authorities in the UK have banned balloon or sky releases on their land.

Plastic/polystyrene

All items on this side of the sheet are identified as plastic or polystyrene



4/6 pack yokes

Four or six-pack rings/yokes are connected and hold together multi-packs of drinks cans



Bag ends

The part that remains after tearing-off single-use carrier bags in supermarkets



Biobeads

Tiny plastic pellets used in filtration process in wastewater treatment plants. Usually wrinkled, knobbly or ridged



Biofilm support media

The plastic material upon which microorganisms grow, typically used in waste water treatment



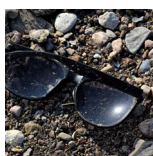
Caps/lids

Plastic caps and lids from bottles/containers, used to seal drinks. Includes plastic to which they are tethered



Cigarette stubs

The remaining part of a cigarette, commonly made from synthetic plastic cellulose



Combs/hair brushes/sunglasses

Plastic items used for untangling hair, as well as plastic glasses



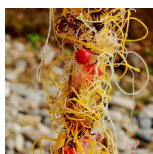
Cutlery/trays/straws

Single-use plastic knives, forks, take-away trays and straws



Fishboxes (polystyrene)

Used for packaging fish or other seafood. There's also a place on your form for wooden and plastic



Fishing line (angling)

Colourful, thin and wiry nylon thread, sometimes attached to a bait hook, used for catching fish



Fishing net/net pieces: 0-50cm

Plastic twine, cord, or something similar, used typically for catching fish



Fishing net/net pieces: 50cm+

Plastic twine, cord, or something similar, used typically for catching fish



Foamed polystyrene fragments

Unidentifiable polystyrene items. Use the ruler at the bottom of the form to record the size



Food container - foamed polystyrene

Containers storing food, such as fast food containers, lunchboxes, etc



Food container - plastic

Plastic containers used for carrying or storing food, such as fast-food containers, Tupperware, lunchboxes, etc



Injection gun cartridge (e.g. sealant)

Cartridge made of plastic for devices used to inject grease, silicone, or other fluids. Includes their nozzles



Jerry cans

Containers with a handle used for storing or transporting liquids, typically petrol or water



Lobster & fish tags

Used to mark fish and shellfish such as lobsters, often with a serial number



Lobster/crab pots & traps

Used to catch crustaceans. Most feature a net covering and a cone-shaped entrance tunnel



Nurdles

Small, colourful plastic pellets, about the size of a lentil - 'virgin' plastic from which nearly all plastic goods are formed



Octopus pot

Pots made of plastic or PVC tubing, weighted with concrete, and typically having a volume of 4 litres



Oyster nets/mussel bags

Plastic net sack for growing (underwater) shellfish. These bags can have different sizes and shapes



Oyster trays

Tray made of square mesh for growing oysters. Sometimes stacked, with or without feet, doors, v-braces and hooks



Packaging/plastic sheeting

Large plastic packaging or sheeting used for the protection/covering/wrapping of cargo objects



Packets: crisp/sweet/lolly (incl. sticks)/sandwich

Plastic food packets and wrappers in various styles and shapes



Plastic fragments (range of sizes)

Unidentifiable plastic items. Use the ruler at the bottom of the form to record the size



Sheeting from mussel culture (Tahitians)

Plastic sheeting which is cut on one side into strips. Used to protect mussel farms from animals



Shoes/sandals

Various types of footwear such as shoes and sandals made of plastic



Shotgun Cartridges

These consist of a plastic tube mounted on a brass base and can come in a range of colours



Strapping bands

Used for fastening any type of package. Usually made of quite hard plastic. Comes in a range of colours



String & cord (diameter <1cm)

Threads made of plastic twisted together into a length. Not to be confused with fishing net pieces.



Tangled dolly rope

Tangles of blue, black or orange rope that are used to protect bottom trawling nets against wear and tear



Tangled nets/cord/rope/string

Tangled pieces of plastic open-meshed material made of twine, cord etc. Typically used for fishing



Toys/party poppers/fireworks/dummies

Any plastic object that children play with, as well as toys used on the beach

Rubber



Tyres used as fenders
Rubber tyres used as boat or dock bumpers will often be pierced with rope or metal chains

Glass



Glass (other)
Fragments of glass items that cannot be identified should go in other and be recorded as 'pieces'

Medical



Containers/tubes (inc. pill packages)
Any packaging of pharmaceutical solids and liquids e.g. pain killer packets or blister packs

Cloth



Clothing/shoes/towels
Any type of clothes, garments and headwear made of natural or artificial materials



Furnishings
Fabric used for furniture, fittings, and other decorative house accessories such as curtains



Sacking
Sacks and other packaging items that are made of a strong, coarse fabric

Metal



Caps/lids
Metallic caps and lids from bottles and containers, including the pull tabs from cans



Fishing weights/hooks/lines
Weights increase sink rate of lures/hooks. Lures are metal hooks with bright mounts



Loose/crab pots & tops
Wire or metal and netting with opening for lobster or crab entry into tunnel

Sanitary



Condoms
A thin rubber sheath. Within this category also any packaging should also be recorded



Cotton bud sticks (plastic or cardboard)
Short stick with parallel notches at each end where cotton wool would have been attached



Tampons & applicators
Tampons and plastic applicators that have been incorrectly flushed down the toilet



Toilet fresheners
Attached inside toilet bowls to keep it smelling fresh. Usually made of plastic



Towels/panty liners/backing strips
Can be found on beaches when being incorrectly flushed down the toilet



Wet wipes
Disposable synthetic cloth, often found on beaches when incorrectly flushed down the toilet

Paper/ cardboard



Cartons (Purepak e.g. milk)
Containers made of carton with a plastic-lining used for food products. Check for logo

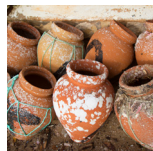


Cartons (Tetrapak e.g. juice)
Similar container made of paperboard with a plastic-lining used for food products. Check for logo

Pottery/ ceramics

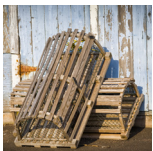


Construction material (e.g. tiles)
Ceramic materials used in construction, such as bricks, roof tiles, floor tiles, and cement



Octopus pots
Pots made of pottery, weighted with concrete, and typically having a volume of 4 litres. Used to trap octopus

Wood



Crab/lobster pots and tops
Stationary wooden traps used to catch crustaceans such as lobsters and crabs. Usually covered in a net



Fishboxes
Boxes used for packaging fish or other seafood. There's separate options for plastic and polystyrene



Lolly stick/chip fork
Includes sticks from ice-creams, small wooden forks from fast food suppliers (chip forks), chopsticks and toothpicks

We know some items are hard to categorise - here is a photo guide to some common tricky items and where to put them on your form



Disposable vape
Plastic - other



Dental floss stick
Sanitary - other



Receipts
Paper - other



Tissues
Paper - other



Hair bands & bobbles
Cloth - clothing



Goggles, arm bands, snorkels
Plastic - toys



Balls & sports equipment
Plastic - toys



Metal nails
Metal - other (0-50cm)



Dog poo bags (empty)
Plastic - bags (small)



Nitrous oxide
Metal - other (0-50cm)

Beach clean volunteer survey

Beach name: _____

Date: ____ / ____ / ____

Your name & email: _____

No. of volunteers in group: _____

**MARINE
CONSERVATION
SOCIETY**

Keep a running tally as you collect |||| • Add up your tally and enter your final total • Please enter actual values only - 'lots', 'many', 'bags full', '100s' can't be used

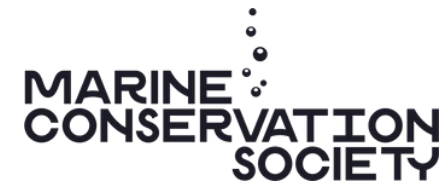
1 Plastic / polystyrene		tally	total	2 Rubber		tally	total	3 Cloth		tally	total	4 Paper / cardboard		tally	total	5 Wood (machined)		tally	total
4/6 pack yokes				Balloons (inc string, valves, ribbons)				Clothing / shoes / towels				Bags				Corks			
Bag ends				Boots				Furnishings				Cardboard				Crab / lobster pots & tops			
Bagged dog faeces				Tyres & engine belts				Sacking				Cartons (purepak e.g. milk)				Crates			
Bags (e.g. shopping)				Tyres used as fenders				Shoes (leather)				Cartons (tetrapak e.g. juice)				Fish boxes			
Bags: Mesh (e.g. vegetable)				<i>Other (please specify)</i>				<i>Other (please specify)</i>				Cigarette packets				Lolly sticks / chip forks			
Bags: Small (e.g. freezer / vegetable)												Cups				Paint brushes			
Biobeads												Newspapers / magazines				Pallets			
Biofilm support media												<i>Other (please specify)</i>				<i>Other 0-50cm (please specify)</i>			
Bottles / containers / drums: Other																			
Bottles / containers: cleaner																			
Bottles / containers: drinks																			
Bottles / containers: toiletries / cosmetics																			
Buckets																			
Caps / lids																			
Car parts																			
Cigarette lighters / tobacco pouches																			
Cigarette stubs																			
Combs / hair brushes / sunglasses																			
Crates																			
Cups - foamed polystyrene																			
Cups - plastic																			
Cutlery / trays / straws																			
Fertiliser / animal feed bags																			
Fibreglass																			

6 Metal		tally	total	7 Glass		tally	total	8 Pottery / ceramics		tally	total	9 Sanitary		tally	total	10 Medical		tally	total	11 Pollutants		tally	total
Fish boxes - foamed polystyrene				Aerosol / spray cans				Bottles				Condoms				Containers / tubes (inc. pill packets)				Paraffin / wax pieces: 0-1cm			
Fish boxes - plastic				Appliances				Jars (inc fragments of jars)				Cotton bud sticks - cardboard				Single use face mask - plastic				Paraffin / wax pieces: 1-10cm			
Fishing line (angling)				BBQs (disposable)				Light bulbs / tubes				Cotton bud sticks - plastic				Single use gloves - plastic				Paraffin / wax pieces: 10cm+			
				Cans (drink)				<i>Other (please specify)</i>								Syringes & needles				<i>Other (please specify)</i>			
Fishing net & net pieces: 0-50cm				Cans (food)												<i>Other (please specify)</i>							
				Caps / lids																			
Fishing net & net pieces: 50cm+				Fishing weights / hooks / lures																			
Floats / Buoys				Foil wrappers																			
Foam / sponge / insulation				Lobster / crab pots																			

Reg. charity in England and Wales 1004005 and in Scotland SC037480.
VCE-002-2021

Source to Sea Litter Quest

80% of the litter we find in our ocean comes from inland sources.
Your survey will help track litter items from source to sea.



About your survey

Where did you clean?

- | | | | |
|-------------|--------------------------|----------------|--------------------------|
| Town | ☐ | River | ☐ |
| Countryside | ☐ | Playground | ☐ |
| Park | ☐ | Office grounds | ☐ |
| Street | ☐ | School grounds | ☐ |

First half of your postcode:

How many bags of litter did you fill?

Weight of litter (kg):

About your group

How many people are in your group?

Is your group taking part as a:

School group? ☐ Youth group? ☐

What is the age range of those taking part?

Are you taking part as part of an organisation?

What is the weirdest thing you found?

Try to recycle the litter you collect if you can, but always keep yourself safe!

What to do – Spot the litter, write down what you found, then pick it up.
You can use a tally to keep track as you go along. ||||

Plastic drink bottles



How many?

Loose plastic
bottle caps/lids



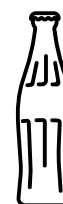
How many?

Plastic drink cups



How many?

Glass bottles



How many?

Metal drink cans



How many?

Polystyrene fast
food container



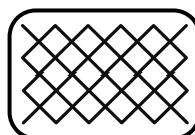
How many?

Paper cups



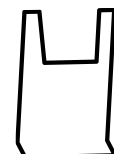
How many?

Disposable
BBQs



How many?

Single-use
plastic bags



How many?

Polystyrene cups



How many?

Plastic bags for life



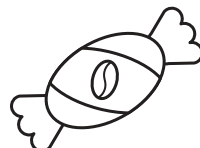
How many?

Wet wipes



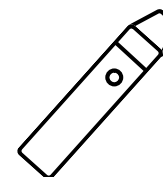
How many?

Packets e.g.
crisps, sweets



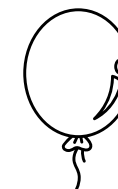
How many?

Vapes



How many?

Balloons



How many?