

5-8 Litter Report

Group Member's Names:

Question: What kind of macroplastic is the most common around our school?

Hypothesis: *If we pick up litter around our school, then we will mostly find _____ because*

Materials:

- Litter Report
- Pencil
- Clipboard or hard surface to write on
- Gloves
- 2 Trash bags per group (1 for trash and 1 for recycling)
- iPad or phone to input data or hardcopy Litter Datasheet

Procedure:

1. Choose where the group will collect litter.
2. Assign roles within the group or understand the role assigned.
3. Assemble supplies. One bag for trash and another bag for recycling.
4. Collect litter found on the school grounds in the designated areas.
5. Record each piece of litter in the Litter-free Digital Journal App. or on the Litter Datasheet
6. Properly dispose of collected litter.

Data: Input data in Litter-free Digital Journal.

Analysis: Use the data in the Litter-free Digital Journal to make a bargraph of the macroplastics your group collected.



5-8 Litter Report

Describe a trend you notice in the graph.

Example: 50 percent of the litter collected was plastic.

Conclusion: Discuss your results with evidence from your data.

Potential Error: What are some potential errors that could have affected the results? What ways could the errors be prevented if the experiment was conducted again?

Potential Application: Why are the results of their experiment important? How can the results be applied to actions to help with the problem? How can reducing macroplastics reduce microplastics?

Reflection: Why is it important to have a litter free schoolyard? How could this affect the watershed?

Solutions:

Take the ecological footprint calculator quiz found at: <https://www.footprintcalculator.org/>

Write a letter to your future grandson and/or granddaughter describing how many earths your current lifestyle requires. Using the solutions found on the website, describe 10 changes you will make to reduce your ecological footprint (You can play around with the calculator using the solutions suggestions to see ways you can reduce your footprint and use fewer earths). Turn in your letter to your teacher for a grade. You can also email your letter to the South Carolina Aquarium at education@scaquarium.org

