**How long until it is gone?**

**Time:** 10-15 minutes

**Topic:** Waste Management, Climate Change, and Plastic Tide Turners Badge

**Key competencies for sustainable development:** The participant will have the chance to develop in normative competency – critical thinking competency .

**SDGs connected:** Responsible consumption and production (SDG 12) **–** Climate Change (SDG 13) – Life Below water (SDG 14) – Life on land (SDG 15)

**Summary:**  
Do you know the different types of plastic/ materials you use and consume and how long they remain in the sea? Do this activity to find out!

**Activity development**

**Step 1:** Do you have the following objects in your home? Do you regularly consume these materials?   
  
Plastic bottle - Plastic bag-Tin can-Leather shoes-Thread- Cotton - Rope- Cigarette - Milk packet (tetra) covers and drink packets - Nylon clothes - Sanitary napkins and children diapers -  
Glass bottles - Hair spray bottle - Fishing line -Aluminum can   
  
**Step 2:** How long do you think it stays in the ocean?   
  
Click on this [link](https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/135q7zQOEYh1jI_pvJcKWXkrcgJRLFw3E2keb9ESFPXY/edit?usp=sharing) to find out!

**Step 3: Consider these questions**

·   Does recycling leave a negative, neutral, or positive impact on nature?

Recycling might seem positive, but it actually has a neutral effect on the environment. Reusing is defined as using the material that you have already consumed again for another purpose.

Then, what about reducing? This is the right impact we need to create a better environment and preserve nature. If we begin by reducing the consumption of non-environmentally friendly substance, most of the companies will stop producing these materials.

As Scouts, we should begin with ourselves and set a good example to others. If not now, WHEN? If not us, WHO?

·   So how can we reduce our plastic consumption?

There are small steps you can take, but they have a really huge impact on the planet. Here are some ideas:

1.          Bring your own shopping bag

2.          Stop buying bottled water, instead have your bottle

3.          Bring your own thermos to the coffee shop

4.          Choose cardboard over plastic bags

5.          Say no to straws

6.          Don’t buy disposable razors

7.          Rethink your food storage

8.          Shop in bulk

**Step 4 (optional) :** What about your consumption?

·   Audit your plastic footprint template: [Online version](https://www.footprintcalculator.org/)   
  
  
**Step 5 (optional):** Play this Kahoot for more information about our impact on our oceans and plastic pollution!   
  
<https://create.kahoot.it/details/plastic-pollution/a7029911-9a5a-49bd-8728-fef2ab5a37d7>