

PROJECT INSPIRE LESSON PLAN

OCEAN LITTER

Curriculum Objectives

In this lesson, students are taught about the dangers of ocean litter by learning about the lives of sea turtles. Students have the chance to learn where litter comes from, how long it takes to decompose, and how we can stop it from entering the ocean. By connecting the topic of litter with sea turtles, students have the chance to learn about what sea turtles eat and make connections between sea turtles and ocean litter.

Details

Location: School classroom

Lesson: Indoors

Activity: Indoors or outdoors

Time of year: Anytime

Age: Elementary school

Materials

- Lesson PowerPoint
- Stepping-stone mixing kit and stone stamps
- Trash (e.g. bottle caps, twist ties, etc.)

Activity

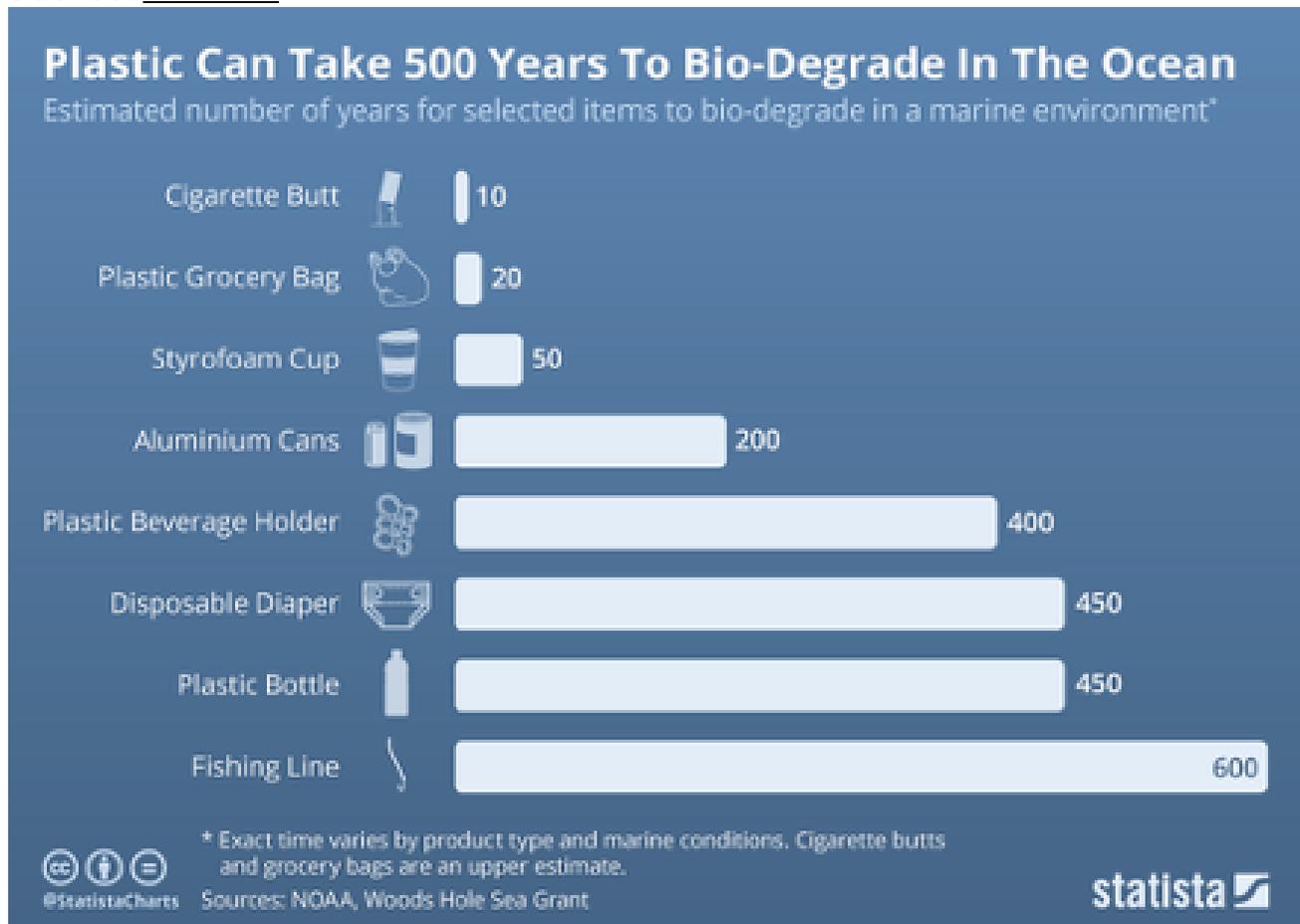
In this activity, students get the chance to make a stepping-stone using pieces of discarded trash. Trash procured from beach clean-ups will be provided. Students will get in groups ranging in size from 4 to 6 to create their own stepping-stones. Leaders will place an image of a sea turtle in the center of the stepping stone and then the students will have the chance to decorate it using trash, such as bottle caps and twist ties, and words, phrases, or drawings that serve as a reminder of how harmful ocean litter can be to marine life. (See the image to the right for an example.



Additional Resources

- [A Whale's Tale | Hope Works \(video\)](#)
- [See How It Feels to Be an Ocean Animal Stuck in a Plastic Bag | National Geographic \(video\)](#)
- [How ocean plastic threatens sea turtles \(video\)](#)
- [Plastic Pollution \(article\)](#)
- [10 tips to reduce your plastic use \(website\)](#)
- [How Long Does It Take Garbage to Decompose \(pdf\)](#)
- [Simple changes to reduce your plastic footprint \(article\)](#)

Source: [Statista](#)



Source: [WWF](#)

