



# Lab Study: Marine Debris

## Activity Outline

### Year 4 (Stage 2) and Year 5-6 (Stage 3)

Each year it is estimated that 8 million tonnes of rubbish enters the ocean – mostly in the form of plastic. This can have devastating effects on the marine environment. In this field and laboratory activity, students gain an understanding of the marine debris problem and perform a first-hand investigation of a local beach.

#### Key Understandings:

- Explains interactions and connections between people, places and environments.
- People influence places and the management of spaces within them.

#### Key terms:

Plastic, waste management, gyres, microplastics, macroplastics, recycle, plastic neutral, circular economy, debris, ecological impacts

#### Curriculum Content:

##### Geography

Year 4: GE2-2, GE2-3, ACHGK022, ACJGK024, ACHGK025, ACHGK027, ACHGS032

Year 5: GE3-2, GE3-3, ACHGK027, ACHGK029, ACHGS033, ACHGS034

Year 6: GE3-2, GE3-3, ACHGK034, ACHGK035, ACHGK036, ACHGS040, ACHGS046

#### Key competencies

Collecting, analysing and organising information

Communicating ideas and information

Working with others and in teams

Working scientifically

Using technology