



Lab Study: Marine Debris

Activity Outline

Year 7-8 (Stage 4)

Each year it is estimated that 14 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 (Stage 4)

GE4-1, GE4-2, GE4-3, GE4-4, GE4-5; ACHGK051, ACHGK052

Marine and Aquaculture Technology (Stage 4)

4.1.2, 4.4.1, 4.4.2, Module 42

Key competencies

Collecting, analysing and organising information

Communicating ideas and information

Working with others and in teams

Working scientifically

Using technology