

Kid Scoop

THE AWARD-WINNING PRINT & ONLINE FAMILY FEATURE



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Kid Scoop Together: Earth Month Scavenger Hunt

Have fun, get outside, get moving and help out the planet earth by going for a walk to pick up litter in your neighborhood with your family. Wear rubber gloves and be careful!

LITTER

A problem you can help to solve!

Litter is stuff that is on the ground and in the water that shouldn't be there. Litter is a big, yucky problem. Some of it is killing animals and poisoning our planet.

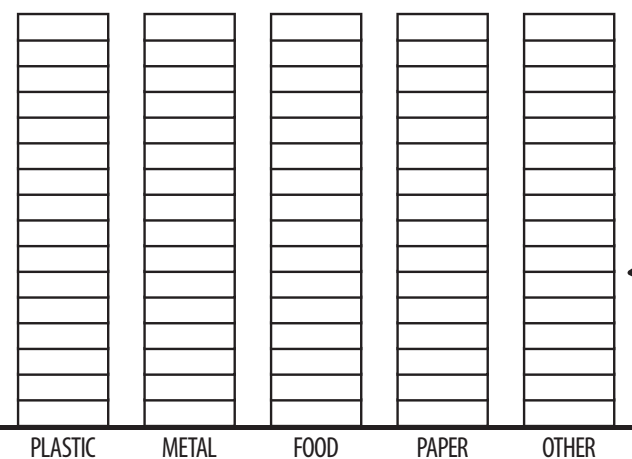
The good news is that everyone can help solve the litter problem!

How?

- Put trash in cans where it belongs.
- Pick up litter when you see it. Put the litter in the proper place.
- Reduce the number of things you use that get thrown away after one use.
- Teach others!

Graph That Trash!

Look at the bits of trash on this page. Make a graph to show how much of each type of trash you found.



Bamboo = Nature's Straw

Plastic straws are bad news. They are causing many problems for the environment. Birds and fish think they are food. But eating plastic straws can kill them. Plastic straws also clog our drains and waterways causing flooding. And a bunch of old straws littering streets and waterways looks ugly.

The good news is that nature has a natural straw! Straws made of bamboo don't hurt animals. If they end up in the trash, they decompose like all natural materials.

Bamboo straws can also be used, cleaned and then used again and again. One straw can be used as much as _____ times! (Color the even-numbered squares green to reveal the answer.)

7	5	1	3	5	9	5	9	7	5	1	5	3	5	9
3	2	5	8	2	4	7	6	2	6	9	2	2	6	5
5	6	1	2	9	6	5	2	1	4	7	4	7	8	7
9	6	5	8	7	4	9	8	3	8	3	6	5	4	1
5	4	7	6	3	8	3	4	5	2	5	8	9	2	1
7	8	5	4	6	2	3	2	6	4	7	4	4	2	3
9	1	9	7	7	5	1	3	5	3	1	7	5	7	9

How many plastic bottles did you pick up?

How many aluminum cans did you pick up?

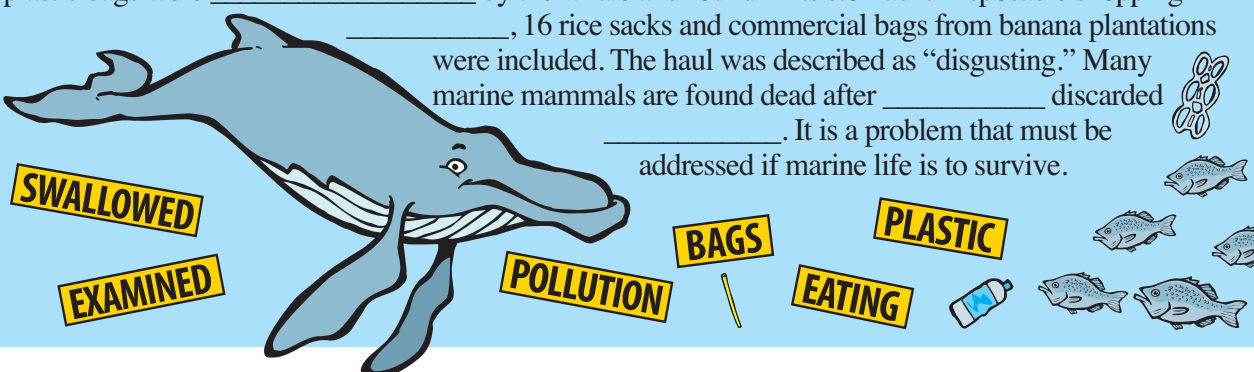
How many pieces of waste paper did you pick up?

How many glass bottles did you pick up?

How many plastic straws did you pick up?

Whale Tragedy Replace the missing words.

The result of plastic _____ of the ocean was recently found in a young whale found dead in the Philippines. According to marine biologists who _____ the dead whale, 88lbs (40kg) of plastic bags were _____ by the whale and found in its stomach. Disposable shopping _____, 16 rice sacks and commercial bags from banana plantations were included. The haul was described as "disgusting." Many marine mammals are found dead after _____ discarded _____. It is a problem that must be addressed if marine life is to survive.



Extra! Extra! The Good Life

Look through the newspaper for pictures of things and words that describe things that make your life good. Cut these out and make a collage.

Standards Link: Research: Use the newspaper to locate information.

Litterati: The APP for Planet Warriors

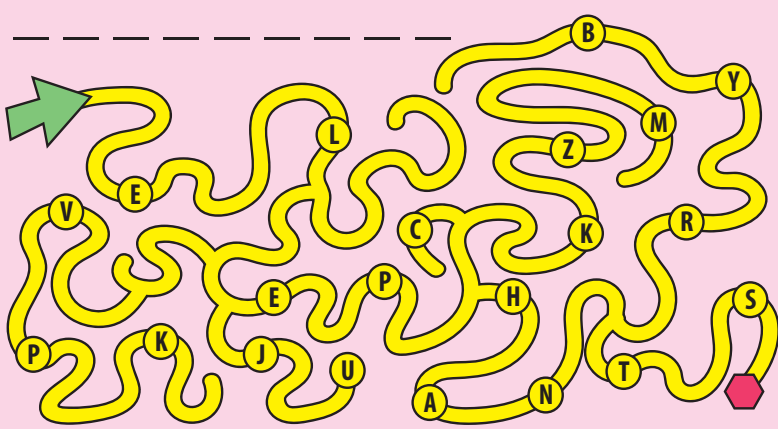
Do you think litter is ugly and bad for the planet? Do you want to be a part of making the planet a cleaner, healthier place? Now there is an APP for that!

Litterati.org has developed an app that asks people to collect, photograph and geotag litter and contribute that data to a global database that tracks and analyzes the world's litter problem. With the extensive data this citizen science project can provide, litter policies can be created that will make a difference.

Kid Scoop Puzzler

There could already be 150 million tons of plastic litter in the world's oceans. That's the same weight as 25 million of these large animals. If they stood in a line it would be 124,274 miles (200,000 km) long. It would go around the world five times.

To find out what kind of animal, unscramble the letters on the correct path.



Standards Link: Follow simple written directions.

Double Double Word Search

- WATERWAYS
- ELEPHANTS
- PLASTIC
- NATURE
- LITTER
- OCEANS
- PROPER
- DRAINS
- TRASH
- STRAW
- TEACH
- SOLVE
- UGLY
- HURT
- CLOG

Find the words in the puzzle. How many of them can you find on this page?

S	E	S	O	L	V	E	S	G	W
Y	L	N	T	C	T	O	E	O	A
A	E	I	P	C	E	R	T	L	R
W	P	A	T	I	U	A	A	C	T
R	H	R	E	T	H	N	S	S	
E	A	D	A	S	E	U	I	S	H
T	N	N	C	A	G	R	R	S	P
A	T	R	H	L	O	B	L	T	E
W	S	M	Y	P	R	O	P	E	R

Standards Link: Letter sequencing. Recognized identical words. Skim and scan reading. Recall spelling patterns.

Kid Scoop VOCABULARY BUILDERS

This week's word:
DECOMPOSE

The verb **decompose** means to break down in decaying.

The leaves were left to **decompose** in the compost heap.

Use the word **decompose** in a sentence today when talking with your friends and family.

FROM THE LESSON LIBRARY

Environmental News

Make a chart with four columns. Label them: *Threats to the Environment, Natural Resources, Ways to Save Energy, and Items to Recycle.* Look through the newspaper for one month to find relevant articles to paste into each column.

Standards Link: Reading: Extract information from text.

What kind of dogs do scientists have?

ANSWER: Laboratory retrievers.

Write On!

What does "green" mean?

What does the term "green" mean when used to describe businesses and lifestyles? What do you do that is "green"?

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