



Marine Matters Curriculum 1
Lesson 8 Ocean Pollution

Worksheet 1 – Stewardship Activities

What are some stewardship activities that you can do to help reduce ocean pollution? Here are some activities listed below. Can you think of other activities?

- **Be respectful of the ocean and the animals and plants that live in it.**
- **Tell your friends what you know about the ocean and try to visit the seashore regularly.**
- **Follow the 4 "R"s – Reduce, Re-use, Recycle and Refuse.**
 - Reduce the amount of garbage you create by re-using and recycling as much as possible. Definitely do not litter.
 - Compost biodegradable items to reduce the amount of garbage you throw away. Compost also provides you with fertilizer for the garden!
 - Reduce the use of styrofoam and other items that are not biodegradable.
 - Re-use plastic bags and other containers.
 - Use a backpack or other re-usable bag instead of a new plastic bag.
 - Recycle cans, paper, cardboard, bottles, etc.
 - Whenever possible, refuse to use items that are not biodegradable and use an alternative that is biodegradable.
 - Refuse to buy items that are packaged in too much material that is not biodegradable.
- **If you see garbage on the beach, try to pick it up and take it to a garbage can. If you see a plastic six-pack holder, cut it up and put it in the garbage.**
- **Dispose of toxic materials such as paint and oil properly instead of pouring it down the drain, where it will end up in the ocean.**
- **Walk or ride your bike instead of taking a car ride over short distances.**
- **Turn off the lights when you leave a room.**
- **Buy local items whenever possible.**
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List 3 ways in which you help reduce ocean pollution.

(1)

(2)

(3)



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Worksheet 2 – Decomposition Timeline

How long does it take for different items to decompose in the ocean?
Draw or write the items at the bottom of the page in their correct order of decomposition along the timeline.

6 mths 50yrs 100yrs 450yrs 500yrs 600yrs

Decomposition Timeline

monofilament fish netting	plastic six pack rings	aluminum cans
styrofoam cups and pellets	tin pop cans	orange peels