

Litter... Why does it Matter?



Introduction

Littering is one of the biggest environmental as well as a social challenges faced today. It is important to address this issue which calls for behavior change at a young age when habits are forming. This activity will help students understand how litter contributes to the problem of pollution.

Objective

To make students understand:.

- The impact of littering.
- The co-relation of pollution with littering

Eco-Schools steps: inform and involve, Curriculum linkages

Curriculum Linkages: Environmental studies

Time Required/Duration

Classroom Session 1: Total 40 Minutes (10 minutes for background introduction and screening a film, 30 minutes to discuss the problem of littering and how it contributes to one major pollution issue).

Resources required

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sjU5i98nx74> *(ocean of the future Greenpeace)
- an award winning short film on the impact of litter*- Khat Aaya Hai(<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6SZ-ZWjdrO8&t=93s>)
- Notebooks, writing material
- Computer/laptop
- LCD projector
- access to Internet

Pre-activity task for teachers/ facilitators

Show a short video about littering and the impact of pollution mainly on wildlife and marine organisms. Briefly discuss about how littering contributes to plastic pollution.



Classroom Session **1**

- Facilitate a discussion with students about the problems associated with littering and how it leads to plastic pollution.
- Ask the students to monitor littering behavior of people. They could choose to monitor littering in the play area or a park they visit. Ensure that there is adult supervision when they are going to a public place. This could also be a class outing to a nearby public park.
- Guide students to observe people's behaviour of littering at that spot. Some indicators for observation could include:
 - 1) Are there waste bins in this spot?
 - 2) Do people throw waste in the waste bins?.
 - 3) The type of material littered most frequently
 - 4) Was the littered material consumed by any animals?
- Discuss the observations with the students. Why do they think people littered on the street? Ask them to write a short paragraph about their experience in the park.

Conclusion

The students will be able to remember the importance of not littering and how litter can cause harm to living beings.

Evaluation

Discuss the impacts of littering and what one should do to avoid littering.

*This film is about plastic pollution. As a teacher, you can show other films regarding littering behavior.

