

The Sea Starts Here

Scouts figure out some of the ways that pollution of the sea is caused, by tracking back the many routes to the sea.

Section: All
Time: 30 minutes
Where: Home, Den



PLAN

Explain the basic idea to the scouts and have them plan how they want to explore this idea. Encourage them to go beyond just identifying the sources of pollution, and maybe consider how they might present their findings to the group and to the wider community.

Materials

Pens and (scrap) paper are a good way to record the ideas. Some scouts might like to present their findings as a poster, or as a model, so maybe some art materials might be handy as well.

DO

Encourage the scouts to think widely about this issue. Bear in mind that there will be liquid pollution, but also solid waste finding its way to the sea. You could offer some suggestions, but only if they need them! Scouts might like to start with the more obvious pollution of the sea, such as waste pipes going into the sea, or waste dumped from ships.

Everything that enters lakes, streams, rivers and even groundwater is likely to end up in the sea, so what can the scouts think of in this area? Remind them that all of the water going down drains on the street, or coming out of the treatment plant taking waste water from their houses, will find its way to the sea. The same goes for waste runoff from farms, and rubbish blowing away from landfills or just discarded on the beach. We often think that things that we dump, or wash down drains simply 'goes away'. Well, there is no such place as 'away'; instead we have 'the sea'.

REVIEW

Chat with the scouts about all of the locations which they identified. They could pull them all together into a giant poster, marking each source of pollution with a "The Sea Starts Here" pointer.

You might ask scouts:

- How they feel about pollution
- What types of pollution they are aware of
- What needs to be done to stop this pollution
- What they can do themselves to reduce pollution



In a nutshell...

- Explore the idea of where sea pollution comes from
- Trace back pollution (liquid and solid) to the sources
- Map all of the routes of this pollution, marking each one with "The Sea Starts Here"



Follow-on

If your scouts were concerned by pollution of the sea, was there any specific aspect or source which might motivate them to explore this area further? Consider other Activity Sheets dealing with pollution, or help the scouts to come up with their own Action Plan to tackle waste.



SDG 14 Life on Land

SDG 14 aims to prevent and significantly reduce marine pollution of all kinds, in particular from land-based activities, including marine debris and nutrient pollution. Thinking about how this pollution is caused in their own communities will help scouts understand the issues and how to solve them.



Find out more!

Visit - www.betterworld.ie

Contact us - sustainability@scouts.ie

Produced by the Scouting Ireland Sustainable Scouting Team