

Classroom Plastics Audit

Name

Date

Plastics are everywhere! But where do they come from? How do people use them? And why do so many plastics end up in our oceans? To help solve the problem of ocean plastic pollution, we must first understand how much plastic we use in our daily lives.

Directions:

- Choose a location for your audit. For example, you may look in your group’s backpacks, in the waste bins, or in a learning area of your classroom.
- Fill in the table for each type of plastic object you find.
- Additional directions for these two categories:
 - **Properties:** Describe the characteristics of each type of plastic. Consider its flexibility, mass, volume, density, color, length/width/thickness, or anything else you can observe about the plastic, including if plastic is combined with another material (such as paper or metal).
 - **Recycling Symbol:** Draw any recycling symbol you find, including any letters and numbers. Otherwise, write N/A.
 - **Single-Use or Durable:** Decide if the plastic is *single-use* (intended to be used once and then thrown away) or *durable* (designed to be used many times).
- When you complete the table, answer the discussion questions with your group.

Location: _____

What Is It?	Draw a Picture	Properties	Quantity	Recycling Symbol?	Single-Use or Durable?
