

GUIDELINES FOR TEACHERS AND GROUP LEADERS

FOR THE PROJECT PLASTIC PIRATES – GO EUROPE!

Plastic Pirates – Go Europe! is a joint citizen science campaign of the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF) in collaboration with the Portuguese Ministry of Science, Technology and Higher Education and the Slovenian Ministry of Education, Science and Sport. The campaign is being carried out in all three countries from 2020 to 2021 as part of the trio presidency of the EU Council.

Use the project as a starting point for lessons in biology, geography, chemistry and social studies, as well as during project weeks and spark an interest for scientific research in your youth group as well as raise awareness for handling plastic more sustainably.

These guidelines will prepare you for the project step by step.

You can find answers to frequently asked questions at:

plastic-pirates.eu/en/faq

1) THE MATERIALS:

PREPARE YOURSELF AND YOUR YOUTH GROUP



Teaching materials and worksheets for teachers and group leaders in portrait format

- Background information about seas and the ocean
- Exercises and teaching methods
- Master copies for young people

The materials can be used independently of a river sampling and beyond the period of the project. It is recommended that you go through selected tasks and exercises before you carry out the river sampling with the group.



Project booklet for young people in landscape format

- Tasks for five groups
- Instructions for the scientific work
- Project booklet for each group member

The project booklet serves as a step-by-step guide to scientific data collection for young people for their excursion between 15 September and 15 November 2020.

The pupils will need this booklet with them when they take samples on the riverbank.

Please go through the booklet with your pupils before your excursion.



Sampling net

Using the net, the amount of larger microplastic particles in flowing water can be determined. The net should be cast at a landing stage or a bridge. It must be secured and should stay in the water for 60 minutes. You can borrow the sampling net free of charge two weeks before your excursion. You will find the order form on our website at:

plastic-pirates.eu/en/material/sampling-net

A joint initiative of:



Bundesministerium
für Bildung
und Forschung



REPÚBLICA
PORTUGUESA

CIÊNCIA, TECNOLOGIA
E ENSINO SUPERIOR



REPUBLIKA SLOVENIJA
MINISTRSTVO ZA IZOBRAŽEVANJE,
ZNANOST IN ŠPORT

2) PREPARATION FOR SAMPLING:

EXAMINE A BODY OF FLOWING WATER FOR PLASTIC POLLUTION



Find a suitable body of flowing water: firm, accessible area of riverbank, vantage point, plenty of space. A sampling area used in previous years can be revisited.

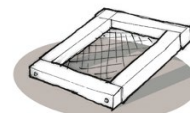


Watch our explainer video about how to take samples together with the young people at plastic-pirates.eu/en/videos.



Do a test run of parts of the project with the young people in advance in the schoolyard.

EXTRA GROUP:



If your body of flowing water has a sandy riverbank, you can build a sampling sieve for the extra group. A construction manual can be found at plastic-pirates.eu/en/material/download.



Get hold of a **camera or camera phone** to document the findings. All other materials that you will need are listed in the project booklet for each group.



Divide a maximum of 30 young people into the groups described in the project booklet and research the waste pollution of your river.



Prepare the net you have ordered for sampling. Attach two empty PET bottles to act as floats.

3) FOLLOW-UP WORK:

UPLOAD YOUR DATA

Enter the results of the groups into the project booklet on pages 28 and 29. It takes about 20 minutes to document the data on our digital map:

plastic-pirates.eu/en/results/data-upload



Enter the results of your group in the online form.

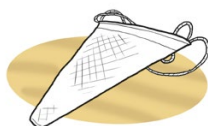


Upload the photos and the scans of pages 28 and 29 from the project booklet.



The last date for submitting your data is 30 November 2020.

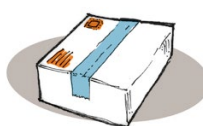
SEND US YOUR SAMPLES



After use, place the dry sampling net in the packaging that you received it in.



Fill in the enclosed return slip.



Place the collected contents from the net in the package, ensuring they are well wrapped. Even if there is nothing visible in the net, there may still be tiny plastic particles.



Stick the enclosed return label over the old label and send the package to the address given in the correspondence by 15 December 2020. You can deposit it at any post office.

STAY UP TO DATE

The analysis of the samples sent in will take a few months. We will post regular updates about the current status of the analysis on Facebook and Instagram. You can post your own contributions using the hashtag **#PlasticPiratesEU** and tagging our channel ([@plasticpiratesgoeurope](https://www.instagram.com/plasticpiratesgoeurope)). plastic-pirates.eu/en/socialwall

Thank you very much for getting involved!

