



Citizen science campaign  
for school classes and youth groups

## TEAMING UP AGAINST PLASTIC WASTE!

March 2021

### Is the “Plastic Pirates - Go Europe!” campaign feasible in times of the pandemic?

The sampling campaign can be carried out **without restrictions, provided that the locally relevant corona rules do not affect the work in your school class or youth group**. Conversely, if regular classes or meetings in youth groups are not possible, we advise against carrying out the sampling.

As **the sampling is carried out outside, it carries a lower risk of infection than working in the classroom**. The activity can be carried out within a class community, so no contact with external persons is necessary. Sampling is carried out in small groups (of 4-8 students), who can work separately from the other groups if necessary. **Please make sure you observe the rules for distance and hygiene.**

It frequently happens that coronavirus protective masks are carelessly thrown away and then found during sampling. Finding the masks can increase students' awareness of the consequences of carelessly discarded waste. Special care should be taken when picking up protective masks (usually by Group B).

**For picking up masks from the floor to dispose of them, please use gloves or tongs.** This will ensure your own safety - just as you would with other, potentially hazardous waste. Do not touch the mouth or nose area of the masks. Protective masks need to be discarded in the residual waste, regardless of whether they are made of fabric or synthetic fleece. This is because only the residual waste is completely incinerated and thus the viruses on the masks are undoubtedly eliminated. If you are worried about collecting the protective masks, you may leave them on the ground. In this case, please still make a note in the Group B protocol that masks were found at the test site.

Please stay informed about the relevant corona regulations. You are the one who, after consulting the school authorities, decides if the sampling campaign can be carried out or not. **Feel free to contact us if we can support you in planning your activity.** For instance, to enable you to further reduce the size of the campaigning groups, we can send you several nets for sampling plastic particles.

We are looking forward to a lively participation!

Your Plastic Pirates Team of the Ecologic Institute and the Kiel Science Factory

Questions about the campaign? Call us or write to us.

Plastic Pirates – Go Europe! Organisation Office

Ecologic Institute, Pfalzburger Strasse 43/44, 10717 Berlin, Germany

Phone: +49 (0)30 8688 0286 (10 a.m. to 12 p.m. and 2 p.m. to 4 p.m., Mon.–Fri.)

Fax: +49 (0)30 8688 0100

Email: [info@plastic-pirates.eu](mailto:info@plastic-pirates.eu)