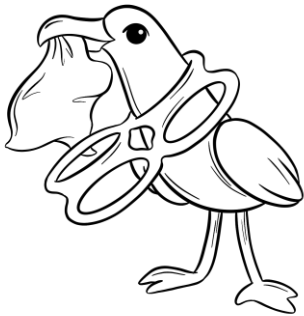
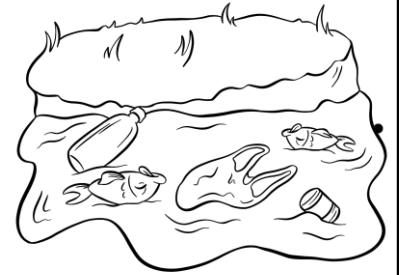


# Why Littering is a Big No-No

If you throw your garbage somewhere they do not belong, such as the floor, instead of throwing them in a trash can, you would be littering. Many people litter for reasons such as laziness, carelessness, not having access to a trash can nearby, or seeing that litter is already in the area. Throwing any type of trash to the ground and leaving it there might not seem like a big problem to you. The problem is that so many people litter, and all of that litter adds up which is very bad for the environment.

One major problem of littering, especially plastic litter, is that it causes pollution. Plastics are made up of so many chemicals, and when you throw any type of plastic to the ground and leave it there, the chemicals can leak out into the soil and poison the plants. When it rains, the chemicals can also make its way to lakes and rivers and poison the fish. Water pollution caused by litter impacts humans as well. Drinking unclean water can make you very sick.



Animals have also been found to get stuck in plastic bags and die. Many animals even mistake plastic for food, and when they eat it, they can get very sick or die. Researchers estimate that over one million animals die each year after eating or becoming tangled in trash.

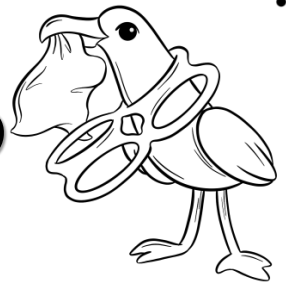
Leaving broken glass on the floor is also an issue because animals, and also people, can step on them and get injured. Getting cut from broken glass can lead to infection. Litter can also spread diseases and viruses.

Some of the most littered items include fast food packaging, cigarettes, plastic bottles, grocery bags, straws, soda cans, and disposable cups.

You can help with making the environment a safer place by throwing away your trash in a trash can. Keep in mind, if your trash is recyclable, place it in a recycling bin instead so that your trash will be turned into something new and be used again. If there is no trash can or recycling bin nearby, hold on to it until you find one. Also, educate others about the consequences of littering. If you see someone littering, tell them to pick it up and throw it in the trash. Explain to them why throwing the trash on the floor is not a good idea. Say no to plastics and use reusable items. Less trash reduces pollution. Follow these rules and you can be a hero to help save the planet.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

# Why Littering is a Big No-No



1. What does the word littering mean?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
2. Why do people litter?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
3. What is one **major** problem of littering?
  - a) It causes deforestation
  - b) It causes pollution
  - c) It causes a safer environment
  - d) It causes trash cans to fill up
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
4. Explain how throwing a plastic water bottle to the ground and leaving it there is a problem to plants nearby?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
5. How does littering affect animals?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
6. What are some of the most littered items?
  - a) Grocery bags
  - b) Soda cans
  - c) Fast food packaging
  - d) All of the above
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
7. Imagine you were walking to school and saw your classmate litter. What would you do? What can you tell him? How will you inform him about the consequences of what might happen if he continues to litter? Write your response on the back of this paper.