



Disposable plastic

action: collect plastic & form

Disposable plastic items are so common that it's easy to not notice them. These single-use plastic items are everywhere - the ubiquitous plastic bottles of water or soft drinks; the plastic straws delivered in our drinks; the plastic bags offered to us at stores; the plastic cups, bottles and utensils at nearly every social event; the plastic packaging of nearly everything in the supermarket. (source:plasticpollutioncoalition)

Investigate the different types of plastics - which plastics are we consuming, which are considered safe for recycling, and which types are typically not accepted. Research about how plastic pollution is linked to climate change.

GLOBAL CHALLENGE

What is single use plastic?

Single use plastic, like the name indicates, is plastic that is most of the time only used once. After that it is incinerated or recycled. The recycled plastic can be reused but that is only 9% of all the plastic ever produced and only 1% has been recycled successfully, most of it either left in nature or disposed of incorrectly which causes huge amounts of CO₂.

Single use plastic will become an even bigger problem than it is now. Plastic never truly disappears but breaks down into micro-plastics which enter the food chain and can damage our health.

What were we trying to do?

We raised awareness of this issue by collecting the plastic our families use every day to realize how much we use. We made our own change to our daily lives.



Picture of single use plastic collected by the team.

LOCAL ACTION

Because of the restriction of COVID-19, we had to look for a home-based action based on a family experience .

Our local action was collecting plastic our families and ourselves used to see just how much is used and how much could be avoided.

What ended up happening was each of us realized just how much useless we were using. It's not something that's always on our minds, the milk bottle you finished this morning you throw it away without really thinking.

Another thing we did was make a Google form to see how many people (we got around 100 replies) were willing to make a pledge to reduce single use plastic.

What can we do?

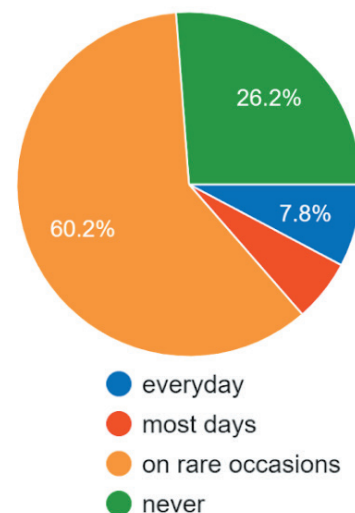
"How can a few people stop this? Isn't it up to the big companies that have to change?" And you'd be right, but if we stop buying single use plastic the companies will lose the only thing they care about, money. The market is changing and companies will have to adapt if they want to survive.

EXPERT CONSULTED



Olga Navarro,
Plastic free Campus
Administrator.

DOES YOUR FAMILY DRINK WATER FROM PLASTIC BOTTLES?



THE TEAM



Maarit
van Lith



Sean
Tunny



Zoe
Fonjallaz



Danjel
Shirley



Lara
Schroeder



Kai Blanc