

Kids' pages Investigations

Topic: Plastic in Tampa Bay



Spring 2021 edition

Instructions: Read through the appropriate *Kids' Pages* edition and answer the questions below. Once all the questions have been completed, refer to the Answer Key to check your work.

Multiple Choice (choose one):

- Which method below is NOT mentioned as a way in which debris ends up in our waterways?
 - Litter
 - Poor waste management
 - Pets
 - Wind
- What is the maximum size of a microplastic?
 - 3 mm
 - 2.5 mm
 - 10 mm
 - 5 mm
- How many billions of plastic particles were found to be in Tampa Bay?
 - 4
 - 12
 - 6
 - 10
- Of the over 1,800 cases examined by Oceana, what percentage involved turtles?
 - 35
 - 52
 - 29
 - 48
- How many countries have introduced laws to combat single-use plastics?
 - 180
 - 60
 - 30
 - 95

Fill in the Blank:

- The two largest forms of pollution in our oceans and Tampa Bay are _____ and _____.
- "_____ " is the unintended entanglement of turtles or other larger animals in fishing gear, which can be fatal.
- Plastic bottles are particularly hazardous to hermit crabs because of their _____ sides.
- In 2019, the city of St. Pete voted to ban single-use _____ (2 words) and _____.

Short Response:

- According to the Conservation Corner of *Kids' Pages*, 335 millions tons of plastic are produced each year, about half of which is single-use and wasteful. Make a list of 15 plastic items that could make a daily routine very convenient (i.e., single-use plastics). Of those 15, pick three that you will make an effort to reduce, if not completely eliminate, from your daily routine.

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ANSWER KEY

Multiple Choice

1. C
2. D
3. A
4. D
5. B

Fill in the Blank:

6. The two largest forms of pollution in our oceans and Tampa Bay are **chemicals** and **trash**.
7. "**Bycatch**" is the unintended entanglement of turtles or other larger animals in fishing gear, which can be fatal.
8. Plastic bottles are particularly hazardous to hermit crabs because of their **slippery** sides.
9. In 2019, the city of St. Pete voted to ban single-use **plastic straws** (2 words) and **Styrofoam**.

Short Response:

10. Answers will vary. *Example answers:*

Plastic straws

Plastic bags

Beverage bottles

Non-cotton clothing (synthetic material)

Takeaway containers from restaurants

Snack wrappers

Balloons

Cotton swabs