

## From Me to the Sea - Middle and High School Program



In our *From Me to the Sea* **middle school** and **high school** program, students engage in citizen science data collection and analysis around marine debris to experience the scope of the problem and engage with efforts to solve it. In the first lesson, students learn how different types of plastic behave in water, and what marine wildlife might therefore be impacted as the plastics break down. During the field trip, which can take place either on the school campus or at a local shoreline park, students use the [Ocean Conservancy's volunteer trash data form](#) to collect information during their shoreline (or school campus) cleanup. Students are able to use the [collective data](#) in the second lesson to inform an action project to communicate and educate their school or community about the impacts of marine debris and what can be done to prevent it.

This would be a great program for students and teachers looking to engage in an educational program that also offers community service hours.

### Program Outline

Lesson 1: Introduction to Marine Debris (1-1.5 hours in the classroom, TWP-led)

Field Trip: School Campus or Shoreline Cleanup and Data Collection

Lesson 2: Data Analysis and Action (1-1.5 hours in the classroom, TWP-led)

### Program Goals

1. Students will learn about marine debris and how it can affect marine life.
2. Students will engage in citizen science data collection through a cleanup and have a positive outdoor experience.
3. Students will interpret their cleanup data and communicate their findings to others.
4. Students will learn about how they can reduce plastic waste and become educators and advocates for anti-littering and recycling programs in their own communities.

*More information on the next page*

*The Watershed Project's mission is to inspire Bay Area communities to understand, appreciate, and protect our local watersheds.*

If you're interested in bringing this program to your school, please contact us at: [education@thewatershedproject.org](mailto:education@thewatershedproject.org)



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## Standards Connections

*From Me to the Sea* supports learning and engagement in the following Next Generation Science Standards:

- Practices: Asking questions (for science); Planning and carrying out investigations; Analyzing and interpreting data; Obtaining, evaluating, and communicating information
- Disciplinary Core Ideas: LS2.A: Interdependent Relationships in Ecosystems; ESS3.C: Human Impacts on Earth Systems; ETS1.B: Developing Possible Solutions

## Field Trip Options

Depending on your schools' location and our funding capacity for bus transportation, here are three possible types of field trip experiences students can have as part of this program:

- A. School campus cleanup
- B. Local shoreline cleanup
- C. Recycling/waste management facility + local shoreline cleanup

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