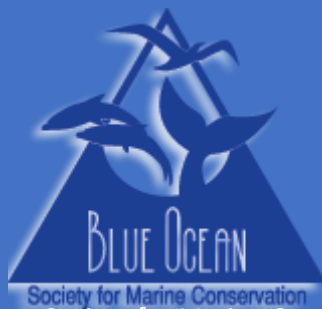




MAKE YOUR OWN RECYLED SOAPY SNAKE!



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Welcome to Theme Week 1: Marine Debris!

Plastic makes up 80% of all marine debris that we find in the ocean from surface waters to deep sea sediments ¹. Around 8 million tons of plastic enter our oceans each year ². Marine debris affects the tiniest of zooplankton to the largest of whales. They can become entangled in it or even ingest it which can be harmful or lethal ³. This isn't an ocean problem it is a human problem, meaning humans are also the solution!

This problem of marine debris can seem like an overwhelming task to try and tackle but by taking small steps in the right direction we can make a difference. By making a conscience effort to reduce your waste or removing litter from the beaches you can help!

This craft is a fun way to transform plastic into something fun for the whole family!

In this instructional guide you will find:

- Materials
- Step by step instructions on how to create this fun and simple Soapy Snake!
- Additional resources to learn more about marine debris

Materials:

- Dish soap
- Scissors/X-Acto knife
- Plate/shallow bowl
- Old sock
- String/rubber-band *optional*
- Plastic bottle

Step 1:

With your scissors or X-Acto knife carefully cut off the bottom of the plastic bottle. Make sure to stabilize the bottle with your alternate hand while cutting. If you need help make sure to ask a grown up as sharp objects can be dangerous.



Step 2:

Take your old sock and slide it over the bottom of your plastic bottle. If you want, you can use string or rubber-bands to secure the sock but it is not necessary.



Your bottle should now look like this.

Step 3:

Pour a bit of dish soap into a shallow bowl or plate with a bit of water and mix gently with your finger. Next dip the sock covered end of the bottle into the soapy water.



Step 4:

Gently blow into the bottle and watch the soapy snakes appear! To have colorful snakes you can add food dye into the water. You can even add the food dye directly onto the sock to create colorful patterns on your soapy snakes!



Have fun and enjoy!



When you are finished having fun with your Soapy Snake make sure that you recycle your plastic bottle. You can also check out [Blue Ocean Society's website](#) for beach cleanup info if you want to help further!

Additional Resources

1. [Blue Ocean Society 2019 Cleanup Results](#)
2. [National Geographic: Plastic Pollution](#)
3. [Blue Ocean Society Blog: How Often Do Whales Encounter Marine Debris?](#)
4. [NOAA Marine Debris Program](#)
5. [Ocean Conservancy: Plastics in The Ocean](#)

Sources

1. [IUCN Issues Brief: Marine Debris](#). May 2018.
2. IUCN Issues Brief: Marine Debris May 2018.
3. [Entanglement of Marine Life: Risks and Response](#). NOAA. June 19, 2017.