

LESSON THREE WORKSHEET

SOURCES OF PLASTIC POLLUTION

LIST 10 ITEMS AROUND YOUR CLASSROOM THAT ARE MADE OUT OF PLASTIC:

WHICH INDUSTRY HAS THE HIGHEST PRIMARY PLASTIC PRODUCTION?
(CIRCLE ONE)

TEXTILES/FABRICS
CONSTRUCTION

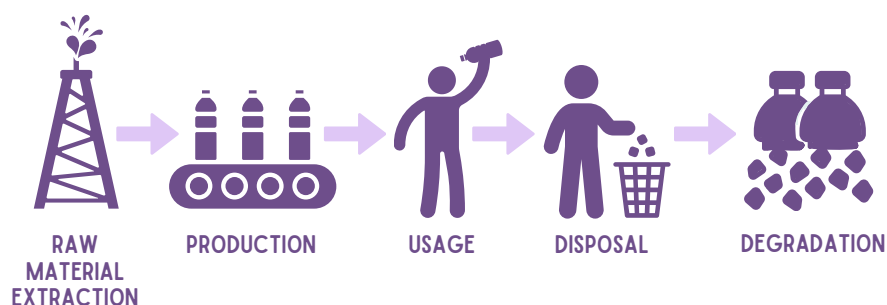
TRANSPORTATION
ELECTRONICS

CONSUMER GOODS
PACKAGING

LIST THREE OF THE PATHWAYS THROUGH WHICH PLASTIC ENTERS THE OCEAN:

WIND, ATMOSPHERE, RIVERS, DIRECT INPUT TO OCEANS,
WASTEWATER, RUN OFF (E.G. URBAN AG, INDUSTRY)

WHAT ARE THE 5 STAGES OF THE LIFE CYCLE OF PLASTIC?



WHAT STAGES OF THE PLASTIC LIFE CYCLE ARE GREENHOUSE GASES
AND POLLUTANTS RELEASED? (CIRCLE ONE)

PRODUCTION

TRANSPORTATION

END-OF-LIFE

USAGE

EXTRACTION

ALL OF THE LISTED

TRUE OF FALSE: PLASTIC CAN BREAK DOWN LIKE ORGANIC MATERIALS,
IT JUST TAKES A LONG TIME

FALSE, PLASTIC DOES NOT BREAK DOWN LIKE ORGANIC MATERIALS,
IT BREAKS INTO SMALLER PIECES CALLED MICROPLASTICS

HOW MANY YEARS DOES IT TAKE EACH COMMON ITEM TO
BREAKDOWN?



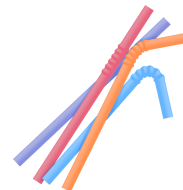
PLASTIC BAG

20 YEARS



COFFEE CUP

30 YEARS



PLASTIC STRAW

200 YEARS



6-PACK RINGS

400 YEARS



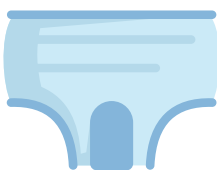
PLASTIC BOTTLE

450 YEARS



PLASTIC CUP

450 YEARS



DISPOSABLE NAPPY

500 YEARS



TOOTHBRUSH

500 YEARS



FISHING LINE

600 YEARS