

Plastic Pollution and You








PERSONAL PLASTIC USE SHEET

Name: _____

Class: _____

Date: ____/____/____

Instructions: Look around your home and try to find a plastic item from each category (Numbers 1-7), you can use the Recycling Chart to guide you. Once you identify the item, write down what it is and how often you use it. After your chart is filled out, answer the reflection questions.

Plastic Number	Common Item	Single Use, Multi-Use, or Long Term Use?*	What Do You Do With This Item When You Are Done With It?
			
			
			
			
			
			
			

*How Many Times Do You Use This Item Before You Throw It Away:

SINGLE USE	MULTI-USE	LONG TERM
<p>These are items that are designed to be used once and then disposed of.</p> <p>Examples include plastic silverware, to go containers, fast food packaging, and water bottles. These items can be used again but are not constructed to withstand multi or long- term use.</p>	<p>These are items that are designed to be used repeatedly, often in the place of single use items. Examples include reusable water bottles, reusable shopping bags, pens, and other common items.</p> <p>These items are constructed to withstand repeated use over time.</p>	<p>These items are durable goods that are designed to be used frequently over extended periods of time. Examples of these items can be composed predominantly of plastic (ie: kayak) or plastic can be a key component of a larger item (ie: laptop computer, car)</p>

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PERSONAL PLASTIC USE SHEET REFLECTION QUESTIONS

Name: _____

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1. What do you notice about the items on your list?

2. Are you surprised about how often you use plastic?

3. Were there items you didn't realize were plastic?

4. Look up your local recycling chart, which items you use are recyclable in your area?

5. Could any of these plastic items be replaced by non-plastic alternatives? Would the non-plastic alternative require additional resources, time, support or money?

6. There are almost 20 million people in the state of New York. Some people believe it would be helpful if people used less plastic. Do you agree or disagree? Explain your response.
