Trash Walk

Overview:
Participants will investigate what kinds of things people litter and discuss possible solutions.

Goals:
- Learn about litter.
- Develop a plan to help reduce litter.

Time Required: 60 minutes

Materials:
- For each person/team:
    - Trash Bag
    - Work Gloves
    - Scavenger Hunt sheet
    - Pencil
- For Class:
    - Whiteboard or flipchart
    - Appropriate markers

Procedure:
1. Start by asking students "What do you think is one of the biggest challenges facing our oceans?" Accept all answers, make a list on a whiteboard/flipchart. Make sure Litter/Trash/Garbage is one of the challenges they list.
2. Tell students, "Today we are going to focus on litter. What is litter? Why do you think people litter?" Accept all answers, make a list on a whiteboard/flipchart.
3. Tell students, "Now we are going to go on a walk. During our walk we are going to look for litter. As you find an example, mark it off on your worksheet. If you find more than one, keep a tally below the pictures. If you find trash that does not fit the examples, make a note of it below the table. Use caution when picking up trash. Do not pick up any broken glass, needles, or other sharp objects."
4. You may choose to have students work individually or in a team of two.
5. Take students on a short walk to pick up trash.

Reflection:
1. What kind of trash was the most common? Least common? Why?
2. What are some ways we can reduce litter?
3. What changes can YOU make now?

Extension:
1. Have students design a flyer, poster, video, etc. encouraging people not to litter.
2. Consider having prizes for those that get 3 in a row, or mark out all 9, on the worksheet.
3. Learn more about the Great Pacific Garbage Patch:
   https://education.nationalgeographic.org/resource/great-pacific-garbage-patch/

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