

# GARBOLOGIST STORM DRAIN INVESTIGATION

Students: Find a grown up or adult to go with you outside in your neighborhood. Bring a pen or pencil and this worksheet or a scrap piece of paper to write your observations.

Find a storm drain and observe the surrounding area.

1. Do you observe litter on your block? If yes, what types of litter do you observe? You can use the Top Ten List as a guide.

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2. Based on what you observe, rate how littered your neighborhood is: (circle one)

Not Littered      Slightly Littered      Littered      Extremely Littered

## TOP TEN LITTERED ITEMS FOUND ALONG THE COASTLINE

1. Food Wrappers (candy, chips, etc.)
2. Cigarette Butts
3. Plastic Beverage Bottles
4. Plastic Bottle Caps
5. Straws, Stirrers
6. Plastic Cups, Plates
7. Plastic Grocery Bags
8. Plastic Take Out/Away Containers
9. Other Plastic Bags
10. Plastic Lids

\*Source: Ocean Conservancy 2020 Report

3. Look at the surrounding area and notice the types of buildings that are there. Where do you think the litter is coming from? What is the source of the litter?

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4. Find the storm drain in your neighborhood. Is there anything written on the storm drain? What happens to the litter in your neighborhood when it rains?

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5. Draw the storm drain you observe or any other observations below:



6. Can you think of any ways you can REDUCE the amount of litter in your community?

I can reduce litter in my community by \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_



## TAKE ACTION! CITIZEN SCIENCE



Want to use your observations to take collective action? Check out the organizations below if you want to go a step further and take action to clean up litter you may have found in your neighborhood. Remember, if you pick up litter, make sure you are doing so safely and with the supervision of a grown up.



Litterati app: A digital platform for photographing and documenting found pieces of litter. A tool to also track litter sources by brand.

[www.Litterati.org](http://www.Litterati.org)



Ocean Conservancy: CleanSwell app: A digital platform for documenting litter clean ups and collected data on the litter items found.

[www.OceanConservancy.org/CleanSwell](http://www.OceanConservancy.org/CleanSwell)