

**MODULE #4  
WORKSHEET**

# Plastic Pollution

## BE AN INVESTIGATIVE REPORTER

**1. Research:** Ask your parents, grandparents, even your great grandparents how they managed without plastic wrap, or plastic grocery bags, or plastic bottles. What kind of toys did they have? What did they take their lunch to school in? How did they wrap up their sandwich? What did they use instead of plastic water bottles? What did they put their leftover food in, to store in the refrigerator? How about plastic forks and spoons? What about their shoes? What about bottles of shampoo and lotions and things like that in the bathroom? How about bottles of cleaning products for the kitchen?



Here is an example of a few things. But this list can be VERY long. It's fun to get an idea of what other generations did 40 to 50 years ago. Start your list with these ideas and interview your family.

Plastic we use today	What did we use before plastics?
Plastic water bottles	
Plastic storage bags	
Plastic milk bottles	
Plastic utensils	
Plastic plates and food containers	

Now search your house and look at all the plastic products. Are there some you could replace with non-plastic? This list could be very long. You might even need some more pages.

PLASTIC PRODUCTS IN MY HOUSE	# OF ITEMS	ALTERNATIVE PRODUCTS WE COULD USE
Plastic water bottles		
Plastic Grocery bags		
Sandwich bags		
Food containers		
Toys		
My iPad cover		
Plastic forks, spoons, knives		
Plastic Straws		
Laundry Bottles		
Shampoo Bottles		

**2. Compare:** Compare your interview answers with all the plastic we use today. What did you learn? Did we start using plastic because it was better? Cheaper? More of it around? Did anyone ever think about not using it?

**3. Suggest Alternative:** Based on your research, see if you can find alternatives to using some of these plastic products. Some things might be easy, but other things are very difficult to replace.

**4. Report Your Findings:** After your findings, talk with your family about how everyone can take an active role in reducing the plastic on our planet and in our oceans. We start with one house at a time, one person at a time. All of our actions are important and many ocean creatures thank you! Write an article or make a video of your findings and send it to EHK! Let's get it out there so more people can take action!