

# **PLASTICS**

**A BOON OR A BANE**

# **LAND ACKNOWLEDGMENT**

**The campuses of Thompson Rivers University are located on the traditional and unceded territory of the Secwepemc Nation within Secwepemcul'ecw. As we share knowledge, teaching, learning and research within this university, we recognize that this territory has always been a place of teaching, learning and research. We respectfully acknowledge the Secwepemc—the peoples who have lived here for thousands of years, and who today are a Nation of 17 Bands.**

**Take a moment to acknowledge the land you are currently in!**

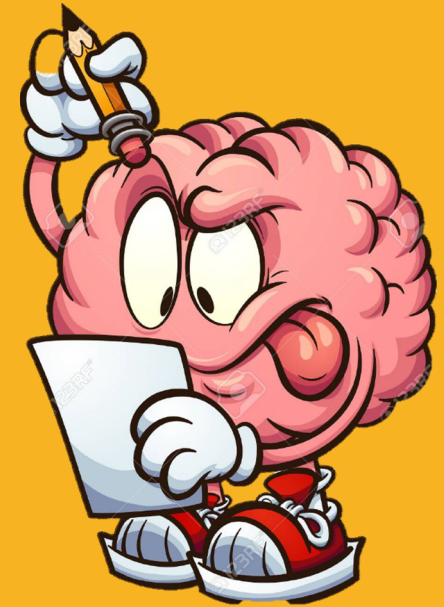
# THINK!

## STEP I

Think about all the items that you touched today made from plastics throughout the day and list those on a sheet of paper.

## STEP II

Now, think about these items, why plastic is used to make these items, why not other items?



## CHARACTERISTICS OF PLASTICS

- ❖ Thin and Flexible
- ❖ Hard and Thick
- ❖ Clear and Opaque
- ❖ Mixed with paper
- ❖ Mixed with Metal



# CREATE!

Now, from your list of items, make two columns,

Column A: Types of Plastic Items

Column B: Number of Plastic Items

Show a graphical representation of the above information on the following axis and share your interpretation of the graph.

**X-axis: “Types of Plastic Items”**

**Y-axis: “Number of Plastic Items”**



**E X A M P L E**

# PLASTICS

- prevalent in our everyday lives.
- low-cost and durable material,
- a practical choice for production in many fields such as medicine, manufacturing, and technology.
- More than 300 million tons of plastic are produced annually.



# The Problem



- Non-Biodegradable
- Release of Harmful Greenhouse Gases
- Clogging of waterways, damage eco systems
- End up in oceans

## **SHARE YOUR VIEWS!**

*When you discard plastic (quickly or after using it for a long time), how do you get rid of it (garbage, recycle, donation)?*

*Can you think of any alternatives to this plastic that we can use that would serve the same purpose?*



**LET'S WATCH A VIDEO**

<https://www.nationalgeographic.org/media/reality-plastics/>

# WHAT DID I LEARN AFTER WATCHING THE VIDEO?

Facts that I learnt, Why they are  
important?

Questions, Reactions, Opinions

# EXTENDED ACTIVITY

**Create a brochure on Plastic Use in a team of 'two' with the following information:**

1. Definition of plastic pollution broadly explained  
Why it is important to reduce plastic pollution? Or How does it impact our environment?
2. Propose a solution to this problem. Show your work with relevant data and resources. Present an overall analysis of your work. (acknowledge limitations where applicable)
3. State a set of examples that demonstrates your worked out solutions in place settings. Gives the list of referred resources.
4. Presentation of brochure

# RUBRICS FOR BROCHURE

	Emerging Environmentalists	Novice Environmentalists	Dexterous Environmentalists	Feedback
<b>Defining the problem of plastic pollution:</b> Why it is important to reduce plastic pollution? Or How does it impact our environment?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Problem is poorly defined.</li> <li>• Facts to support the data are weak or low connections.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The problem is defined clearly.</li> <li>• Facts support the data but not clearly defined.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The problem is clearly defined and explained.</li> <li>• Facts collected adequately support the data.</li> </ul>	
<b>Solution proposal to this problem:</b> Analysis of data collected.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The proposed solution does not support the change in plastic use.</li> <li>• Supporting data is missing or misinterpreted.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The proposed solution is stated clearly.</li> <li>• Data is presented but lacks sufficient analysis.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The proposed solution is clearly defined.</li> <li>• Data is analyzed and findings are clearly communicated with well acknowledged limitations.</li> </ul>	
<b>Supporting evidence along with examples and resources</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Evidence and examples lack clarity and connections with the solution.</li> <li>• References missing</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Evidence is supported but with limited resource.</li> <li>• References are present</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Evidences are presented clearly with multiple resources.</li> <li>• References clearly defined.</li> </ul>	
<b>Presentation:</b> Present your proposed solution in your brochure orally to the present audience.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The prepared brochure lacks organization and does not meet the criteria of included information.</li> <li>• Oral presentation lacks clarity.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The presentation meets the criteria but organization is missing.</li> <li>• Oral presentation presents the arguments clearly but consists of primarily reading the content.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The presentation is clear and attractive, and meets all the criteria from the description.</li> <li>• Arguments are extending and responsive to the audience questions.</li> </ul>	