

No Straw Please!

Plastics, such as straws and bags, never biodegrade and take hundreds of years to break down. Plastic straws are ending up in our oceans and cause harm to birds, fish and other marine life in numerous ways.

According to the National Park Service, Americans use 500 million straws daily. You can help shrink that number! Starbucks recently stopped providing straws for its customers as a way to help protect the environment. You can be a citizen activist by making a choice not to use straws personally at home or in restaurants, using "reusable" straws and reaching out to restaurants in your area by joining the [Each One Reach One](#) initiative.



What You Need

- Recyclable straws for personal use.
- Computer to learn more about or join the Each One Reach One initiative.
- Paper and printer or markers to make flyers about the importance of using recyclable straws or not using straws at all.



How You Do It

- 1 Do some additional research on how plastic straws hurt the environment. Check out the [Each One Reach One](#) site.
- 2 Purchase recyclable straws for personal use.
- 3 Make flyers and pass them out to friends and local businesses that use straws.



Before the project

READ ONE OF THESE BOOKS.

"I Want to Go Green! But What Does That Mean?" by Jill Dunn

This is a fun, rhyming story that introduces elementary-aged children to a green lifestyle. The main character takes readers on a silly yet educational adventure as he discovers simple ways to conserve resources and keep our Earth clean.

"Life in the Ocean: The Story of Oceanographer Sylvia Earle" by Claire A. Nivola

Sylvia Earle first lost her heart to the ocean as a young girl when she discovered the wonders of the Gulf of Mexico in her backyard. As an adult, she dives even deeper. Whether she's designing submersibles, swimming with the whales, or taking deep-water walks, Sylvia Earle has dedicated her life to learning more about what she calls "the blue heart of the planet."