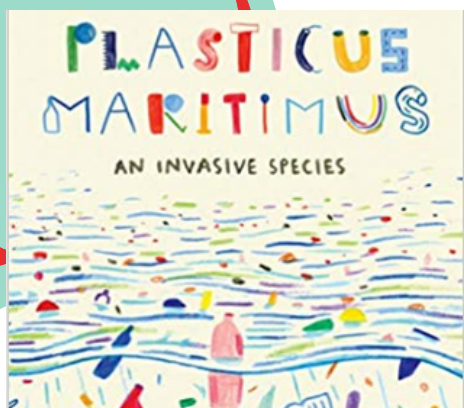


# CONNECTIONS TO SCIENCE GUIDES

GEORGIA YOUTH SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY CENTERS, INC.

## PLASTICUS MARITIMUS

BY: ANA PEGO



### ASK

- Have you ever seen litter at the beach? What was it? Where do you think it came from?
- How does plastic pollution affect the ocean?
- How can you help clean up plastic pollution? How can you prevent it?
- Have you ever thought about being an inventor?

### EXPLORE

#### PLASTIC POLLUTION SOLUTION

##### Materials:

- Large bowl or bucket
- Water
- Pony beads
- Various recyclables and/or crafting materials to create invention

##### Directions:

- Begin by brainstorming an invention to clean up plastic pollution in the ocean.
- Fill your bowl or bucket with water. Add the pony beads to simulate plastic pollution.
- Using your recyclables and/or crafting materials, create an invention to remove the plastic pollution from the water.
- When ready, test!
- As you work, think about:
  - How will my invention pick up plastic pollution, but not untargeted aquatic or marine life?
  - What should be done with the plastic pollution that is collected from the ocean?

##### Fun Facts:

- 17.6 billion pounds of plastic make its way into the ocean every year.
- One of five garbage patches in the ocean, the Great Pacific Garbage Patch is twice the size of Texas.



## EXPLAIN

### HUMAN ACTIVITY

Plastic pollution is a serious problem. Annually, one million seabirds and 100,000 marine mammals perish because of plastic pollution. In addition, the research shows that over 800 coastal and marine species are also affected by plastic waste either by entanglement, ingestion, and/or damage to their habitats. More studies show that 90% of seabirds and 52% of all turtles have already consumed some amount of plastic.



## EXTEND

### TYBEE ISLAND MARINE SCIENCE CENTER



The Tybee Island Marine Science Center is located on Tybee Island, Georgia. Take a guided beach walk or marsh trek with a marine science educator to learn about Georgia's coastal environment. You will learn about the wildlife that live in and around the Georgia's ocean and discuss the impact of marine debris and shoreline development.

## STEM CAREER

### INVENTOR

An inventor is a person who develops new or unique products and processes. At work, inventors come up with ideas, build prototypes, and test them. Inventors can work for themselves or for companies. If you are interested in creating new things, being an inventor might be for you!

*Boyan Slat, inventor, founder, and CEO of  
The Ocean Cleanup*  
Photo Source: [www.theoceancleanup.com](http://www.theoceancleanup.com)



## BACKGROUND

The Georgia Youth Science and Technology Centers, Inc. provides quality programs for teachers of STEM subjects that improve the teaching and learning process at the kindergarten through eighth grade levels. We present programs that change students' perceptions and inspire an appreciation for science, technology, engineering, and mathematics subjects.

## ABOUT US

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