

Method I

The project covers the entire Polish coastline

(procedure with strainer)

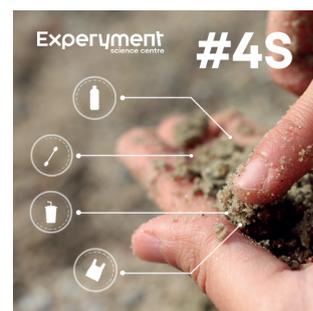
How to do it?

1. Mark out a 20 cm x 20 cm square near the water line.
2. Collect the top 5 cm layer of sand and sieve it through a 1 mm mesh strainer.
If the sand is wet, either dip the mesh in water or find a drier place.
3. Photograph the sieved contents against a light background after sifting out the sand.
4. If there is any plastic, identify what it is and take a close-up photo of it.
5. You can repeat the procedure at different locations along the waterline, extending the report file.
6. Send us the photos and the report completed in Excel file template.
7. Dispose of the found plastic material in the garbage.

How to prepare the documentation?

Take photos of the following:

1. Beach entrance (with its entrance number signboard).
2. Views along the beach in both directions - are there any beach chairs, waste bins or other man-made elements or is it a natural, wild beach?
3. The marked out sample taking square.
4. Photo of the sieved out sample material taken against a light background, regardless of whether it contains any plastic.
5. Close-up photo of found mesoplastic.



Remember!

1. Do not paste your photos into the Excel sheet. Do not modify them.
2. Automatically generated file names make it easy to assign photos to consecutive observations from the worksheet. It is better not to modify the file names unless you are photographing with two smartphones.
3. Many phones have the option of including GPS information with the photo, which saves you the trouble of transcribing geographical coordinates manually and is also convenient for us.
4. Compress the photo package along with the report, e.g. zip it and upload using Wetransfer, Dropbox, Google Drive etc. If there are only a few photos, you can also send them as an email attachment.
5. Name the report file and photo package using your full name and sample number, e.g. John Smith 1.

Personal data

Providing name details in the "Name" column means agreeing to disclose the volunteer's personal data for the purpose of possible contact with us*. If this field is left blank, the personal data will be kept confidential. We do not disclose any personal information on the project website.

* Volunteers who choose to give their name can expect to receive from us information about the project's progress and results, as well as invitations to other citizen science activities.

Bladderwrack seaweed

If during your field research you come across stalks of bladderwrack washed ashore, please remember that such information is also important for us. It applies directly to the project **Is Bladderwrack Back?**

<http://www.iopan.gda.pl/projects/NaukaObywatelska/index8.html>

Please take a photo and specify the approximate number of the encountered seaweed stalks (one, several, dozens, hundreds, vast numbers), as well as their location. It can be specified either in the **"Comments" column or email contents.**

Thank you for your cooperation!

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<https://oceanofchanges.com/>