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Caleb Greenwood is an authorized International Baccalaureate (IB) World School implementing the Primary Years Program (PYP).

*The International Baccalaureate® aims to develop inquiring, knowledgeable and caring young people who help to create a better and more peaceful world through intercultural understanding and respect. To this end the organization works with schools, governments, and international organizations to develop challenging programmes of international education and rigorous assessment. These programmes encourage students across the world to become active, compassionate, and lifelong learners who understand that other people, with their differences, can also be right.*

<https://www.ibo.org/>

## IB PYP NEWS!

November learner profile  
and Action Focus:

### *Inquirer Participation*

Being an *Inquirer* means nurturing our curiosity by developing skills for inquiry and research. It means we learn with enthusiasm and sustain our love of learning throughout life. This idea of curiosity and enthusiasm may result in *Action* in the form of *Participation* – learning about a problem or a cause may propel you to learn more by participating in a class or learning opportunity; or it may move you to search out an activity to show your support; or it may even drive you to become part of a group who shares the same passion! Talk with your family about what issues and topics are Important to you all. Then do some research together and inquire about ways to *Take Action* through *Participation*!

## School-Wide IB PYP Unit of Inquiry!

**THEME:** Sharing the Planet

**CENTRAL IDEA:**

Our relationship with the natural world impacts the planet.

**LINES OF INQUIRY:**

- Our relationship with the natural world
- Our impact on the planet
- How to foster positive relationships and lessen our negative impact on the planet

**Learner Profile Focus:**

Inquirer (Nov), Principled (Dec)

**Action Focus:**

Participation (Nov, Dec)

## 9 REASONS TO REFUSE SINGLE-USE PLASTIC

- 1** Made from fossil fuels
- 2** Huge carbon footprint
- 3** Will still be here in hundreds of years
- 4** Only a tiny percentage is recycled
- 5** Leaches toxins into food & drink
- 6** Causes hormone disruption & cancers
- 7** Pollutes our oceans
- 8** Kills marine animals and birds
- 9** Enters our food chain



## How can we support the IB PYP Unit of Inquiry at home?

### Inquirer Participation Challenge:

What is single use plastic and how can I help reduce our impact?



### Step 1: Learn about the Problem and Solutions

There's no need to delve too deeply into the many problems with single use plastic pollution. Stay away from "doom and gloom" information which shows an overwhelming scale to the problem or doesn't offer solutions. The problem needs to be "right-sized" for a child. Pictures of a beach littered with plastic is fixable to a child. Image after image of the entire sections of the earth covered in plastic is not helpful. It's also best to follow the line of children's own curiosity and questions. This will help ensure that they learn what they are ready to learn.

### Step 2: Identify the Top 6 Offenders in Your Home

Take a deep dive into your... yup, you guess it: garbage. While the goal is to understand the problem, still keep the focus on the solutions. to learn. Look at a week or a month's use of single use plastic. What are you recycling? What are you throwing away? What are your top 3 offenders in terms of plastic that you are currently recycling and top 3 in terms of plastic that is thrown away? This list is your Top 6 Offenders.

**Step 3: Identify and Evaluate the Solutions** Which items would be easy to either stop buying or replace with a non-disposable option. Have your children do the research. What are some of the solutions to each of your Top 6 Offenders?

### Step 4: Choose 3 Top Offenders to Address

Decide together as a family which 3 offenders from your list of Top 6 Offenders you'd like to solve. Choose the ones that you think would 1) be most realistic to solve and 2) feel best to solve.

### Step 5: Create a Rewards Jar

On slips of paper brainstorm things you like to do together as a family that feel like a treat. Some examples might be: have breakfast for dinner; play a game; watch a movie; cook a meal together, go to the beach, etc. You might only need 20 items in the jar. As you meet small milestones, pull something from the jar and do it. You will be positively reinforcing the new behavior, as well as enjoying time together as a family.

### Step 6: Join with Others

After you have solved these three problems in your home ask: How can you widen the circle of your influence to solve the problem at a larger scale? Where in your neighborhood, school, community, civic organizations, legislation can you join with others to reduce single-use plastic? Being responsible for systemic change can be very empowering for young people. Plus it is a lot more fun to do things with others!

[-Full Article Here-](#)

## 7 SINGLE-USE SWAPS AND THE TRASH YOU CAN SAVE IN ONE YEAR

4.4 lbs of trash per day x 324 mil people in the US = 700,000 tons of trash made every day in the US

"THE PEOPLE WHO MAKE THE BIGGEST DIFFERENCE ARE THE ONES WHO DO THE LITTLE THINGS CONSISTENTLY."

- 1 bamboo tooth brush = 4 plastic tooth brushes
- 1 glass floss container = 7 plastic floss containers
- 1 reusable water bottle = 167 plastic water bottles
- 1 reusable bag = 170 plastic bags
- 1 reusable cup = 500 coffee cups
- 1 metal straw = 540 plastic straws
- 1 cloth towel = 7,300 paper towels

## FOUR WAYS TO REDUCE SINGLE USE PLASTICS

- 1 About 500 bags could be saved over the average lifecycle of one mesh bag or tote.

SHOPPING BAGS → MESH BAGS OR TOTES
- 2 In Canada we consume two billion water bottles each year, which is equal to 5.3 million a day.

WATER BOTTLE → FLASK OR SPORT BOTTLE
- 3 Ziploc bags a week over 5 years (100) is equal to the average lifespan of a glass or reusable container.

ZIPLOC BAGS → GLASS OR REUSABLE CONTAINERS
- 4 57 million plastic straws are used everyday in Canada. A plastic straw used once daily over 5 years is equal to 1,825 straws.

PLASTIC STRAW → STAINLESS STEEL OR OTHER REUSABLE STRAW

## PLASTICS IN THE OCEAN

COMMONLY FOUND PLASTICS

- Cigarette Butts
- Bottle Caps
- Straws
- Cups & Plates
- Single Use Bags
- Food Wrappers
- Beverage Bottles

MICROPLASTICS

BOATS/NETS

ENTANGLEMENT

INGESTION

RAIN & WINDS

LITTERING

STREAMS & STORM DRAINS

https://marinedebris.noaa.gov/