**1. BEFORE LEAVING FOR YOUR SURVEY**

1. Check your equipment:

* Measuring devices (100-meter, 5-meter, and ruler)
* Transect markers
* Forms, clipboards, and pencils
* Water and snacks
* First aid
* Bags for trash pick-up and signs for sorting

1. Review safety information and directions provided by your teacher, including your transect number.

**2. SET UP THE SURVEY**

1. **ONE STUDENT OR TEACHER -** Measure 100m survey site, marking transect start and end points (e.g. if “60m” is the transect number, mark 60m and 65m).
2. **ONE STUDENT OR TEACHER -** Complete the Survey Coversheet.
3. Walk to the transect number that you’ve been assigned.
4. With your partner, measure the length of your transect, maintaining 5 meters across from the back barrier to the water and marking with Transect Markers.

**3. SEARCH MAIN BEACH TRANSECT AND COLLECT DEBRIS**

1. Note the start time for your transect search on your Transect Survey Form.
2. Walk along the edge of the transect and scan for debris on the surface within half of the transect. Do not dig for debris during the search. Enter the transect only to collect debris.
3. Collect your debris. Keep this debris separate from debris collected in other transects and from the back barrier.
4. Note the end time for your transect search on your Transect Survey Form.

**4. SEARCH BACK BARRIER**

1. At the back of your transect, LOOK into the back barrier and record any debris you see in the “Back Barrier” section of the Transect Survey Form.
2. *If you can* *do so safely*, enter the back barrier and collect debris there. Do not enter sensitive vegetation or unstable surfaces. Place debris in a separate container from your main beach debris.

*Flip this sheet over for a visual reference for how to search the main beach and back barrier!*

**5. SORT DEBRIS AND COMPLETE FORMS**

1. Sort your transect debris by material type. Use the Marine Debris Item Categorization Guide if you aren’t sure what the material is.
2. Record item counts on the Transect Survey Form. Remember to keep your back barrier debris separate from your main beach debris, if you collected it from the back barrier.
3. Take photographs of your debris items.

**6. BEACH CLEANUP**

1. Once you have completed the Transect Survey Form for your transect, rejoin the group for the full beach cleanup.
2. Collect debris from the area assigned by leaders. Do not enter sensitive vegetation or unstable surfaces, and avoid climbing on logs, rocks, or other fall risks.

**7. DEBRIS DISPOSAL**

1. **ONE STUDENT OR TEACHER -** Set up sorting stations for collected debris.
2. **ONE STUDENT OR TEACHER -** If you are weighing debris before disposing, set up your scale.
3. Bring your collected debris to the sorting and disposal area.

**8. SNACK, GAMES, GROUP PHOTO, THANK-YOUS, AND GO!**

**HOW TO SEARCH REFERENCE:**

