

## OBJECTIVES:

1. To Discuss Reactions to the Cleanup Experience
2. To Relate to the Items Collected and Their Journey
3. To Think Creatively and Critically about Ocean Trash Prevention

## REACTING AND RELATING TO CLEANUP

Now that participants have learned all about marine debris and conducted their own cleanup, it is important for individuals to share their reactions to the cleanup experience. This will help conclude the program and move participants to focus on marine debris prevention. Participants now have hands-on experience with the information discussed throughout the Preliminary activities and should be ready to discuss the issue in an action oriented and prevention focused way.

“**ASK** the participants:

- **How did this experience make you feel?**
- **Did you feel frustrated? Surprised? Motivated?**
- **Were you surprised by some of the items found?**
- **Which items surprised you the most? Why?**
- **Were you surprised by the quantity (amount) of certain items?** If you have time to total participants' data forms before the discussion, **“ASK: Were you surprised by the top 5 collected?**
- **How many of the items you collected do you recognize? Do you use many of these items at home? Could any of the items be found in your lunch box?**

## **ACTIVITY:** TALKING CRAZY TRASH

This activity can be conducted as a group at the cleanup site, directly following the cleanup and discussion, individually as a take home activity, or in the days following the cleanup in small groups.

**OBJECTIVE:** Participants will think critically about the journey of trash and how a specific item could have not become marine debris.

### **MATERIALS:**

- Participants' memory of the craziest, weirdest item they collected
- (Optional) Pen/pencils/markers
- (Optional) Paper
- (Optional) Device for audio and/or video recording (can be a smart phone)
- (Optional) White board and dry erase markers

### **INSTRUCTIONS:**

1. Have participants break into small groups (can be done individually if preferred).
2. Once in small groups, have participants share what was the craziest or weirdest item they collected during the cleanup. It is not necessary for the item to be very strange; any item will work.
3. Ask each group to pick one of the items participants shared.
4. Explain to participants that they will be creating the story of that item's journey. Most importantly, they will conclude the story with how they would have become Ocean Heroes and stopped that item from ending up where it was collected by the group.
5. Participants can choose how they would like to tell the story. They can write an actual story or poem, create a comic strip, write lyrics to a song or rap, act out the journey as a skit, or even make a video.

## TRASH MATH: DIVE DEEPER WITH DATA

Following the Cleanup, organizing and analyzing the data can help participants understand the specific marine debris problems in your area and enhance math skills. Once trash data have been collected, participants can use these data to run age appropriate statistics and calculations. They might determine the most common item collected or look at the mean, median and mode of certain items across the group. These data can also be graphed, made into a pie chart, or analyzed with a multitude of different math calculations. Participants can calculate totals, percentages, ratios, averages, probability, etc. For an example math worksheet using the cleanup data, please see the online activity bank.