

Good Beach, Bad Beach

For this game you need:

- A safe space for children to run around (NB. this can be played inside or out)
- A watch or phone for timing
- A set of 47 'Good Beach, Bad Beach' bean bags
- 4 litter picking devices
- > 1 'Good Beach' bucket
- → 1 'Bad Beach' bucket

Gameplay overview:

- This game is intended for **FOUR** teams
- © Children decide what they consider to be the most damaging/dangerous/unpleasant items of litter in order to collectively become 'clean up champions'















Order of play:

- Define a central 'beach' playing area by whatever means you decide best given your setting
- O2 Divide the children
 up into FOUR teams
 spaced evenly around
 the central playing area
- Randomly scatter
 the 'Good Beach, Bad
 Beach' bean bags
 across the playing area
- O4 Place the two buckets in the centre of the play space
- Tell the children that they need to collect

 ONLY items of rubbish from the beach, being careful not to disturb or damage the natural environment

Initial litter pick phase:

- The game begins with teams taking turns to each send out one member with a litter picker to select one 'Bad Beach' bean bag from the central playing area and bring it back to their base
- This continues until only 11 bean bags remain on the beach (NB. hopefully only the 'Good Beach' items), if the children have correctly picked up only 'Bad Beach' items)

Pinching phase:

- Teams have 1 minute to pilfer items from each other's bases
- This is done in relay with each team sending a different member out with a litter picker to pinch one 'Bad Beach' bean bag at a time from another team's base and bring it back to their own base
- All teams do this simultaneously.

 It is an opportunity to pinch as many as possible from another team
- When time is up, everyone returns immediately to their team bases

Reveal and discussion phase:

- Taking it in turns, one team at a time reveals to the others what they have collected/managed to retain
- During this phase there is opportunity for discussion and questioning about the relative harms and impacts of different items and an opportunity to collectively look at the bean bags left on the beach
- After each item is discussed, the bean bag is placed into the 'Bad Beach' bucket (NB. If there are any 'Good Beach' items, these are returned to the middle of the playing area)



'Good Beach' items

Item	Image	Item	Image
Crab		Hermit crab	
Little tern		Rocks and pebbles	
Herring gull		Starfish	X
Drift wood		Seaweed	
Oystercatcher	57	Sanderling	
Sea shells			



'Bad Beach' litter item	Issue	Questions	Discussion points
Plastic bottle	Plastic bottles float so even those discarded near or in rivers eventually end up in the sea	What can you do to prevent plastic bottles ending up in the sea? What can the government/society do to help stop bottles ending up in the sea?	Fines Deposit return scheme Use your own reusable water bottle No single use plastics
Fishing line/nets	Line and nets get tangled around creatures and can cause distress and death	What can fishermen/anglers do to prevent discarded nets and line ending up in the sea? What can we do to prevent discarded nets and line becoming a danger to wildlife?	Stop eating fish Set up recycling schemes Monitoring and reporting leading to fines
Banana skin	Unsightly Slippery	Is it okay to litter any organic materials anywhere?	It is biodegradable (2 years)
Glass	Broken glass can get buried and people tread on it leading to infected cuts	Glass bottles are re-usable, so is it okay to take them on the beach? What can we do to make sure glass isn't left on the beach?	Past industry pollution – former glass works Act responsibly Remove any bottles or glass you see
Food container	Plastic food containers float so even those discarded near or in rivers eventually end up in the sea	What can you do to prevent plastic food containers ending up in the sea? What can the government/society do to help stop plastics ending up in the sea?	Use biodegradable / cardboard food containers Discard waste responsibly Remove any discarded waste you see
Coffee cup	Discarded coffee cups float so even those discarded near or in rivers eventually end up in the sea	What can you do to prevent coffee cups ending up in the sea? What can the government/society do to help stop coffee cups ending up in the sea?	Use biodegradable / cardboard coffee cups Use re-usable cups Discard waste responsibly Remove any discarded waste you see

'Bad Beach' litter item	Issue	Questions	Discussion points
Old tyre	Unsightly Degrade and leak toxic chemicals and heavy metals posing a danger to wildlife and humans	What can be done with old tyres? Do you know of any products made from chipped and recycled tyres?	Responsible disposal Government make easier to dispose of responsibly – so less fly-tipping Products: roads and roof tiles
Crisp packets	Bag-sized pieces of plastic waste are potential threats to sea life – from fish and seabirds to seals and dolphins As the packs break down, tiny pieces of microplastic are consumed and become a hazard all the way along the food chain	What is your favourite flavour? How else could we enjoy crisps without needing bags which take 80 years to biodegrade?	Walkers recycling scheme – collect and make benches Buy bigger bags to share
Shopping trolley	Hazardous and unsightly Danger to wildlife Will wash downstream and end up in the sea	How does a shopping trolley end up on the beach? What's the strangest thing you've ever seen being carried in a shopping trolley?	Stop the wheels turning outside the curtilage of the supermarket Responsible behaviour Higher deposits
Wet wipes	Wet wipes flushed down the toilet can enter the sea during storm overflows Micro plastics – ingested by wildlife	What options are there to using wet wipes?	Use cleanable cloths Dispose of them responsibly Stop producing them
Drinks can	Unsightly, don't biodegrade, sharp edges can be dangerous to stand on	What do you think the large corporate brands like Coca Cola and Pepsi can do to help?	Aluminium has an infinite life cycle (it can be endlessly re-used and recycled) Imagine if we recycled all of the drinks cans in the world instead of sending some to landfill
Disposable BBQs	Unsightly, don't biodegrade, sharp edges can be dangerous to stand on. Buried hot coals are dangerous to stand on	Where do you think is the safest place to have a BBQ? What are the dangers of lighting a BBQ in the countryside?	Some supermarkets have banned the sale of disposable BBQs after they were found to cause wildfires

'Bad Beach' litter item		Issue	Questions	Discussion points
Lolly wrapper	New York	Unsightly Can be swallowed by wildlife	What options are there to having Iollies wrapped?	It is easy to make your own fruit lollies at home with smoothie and reusable moulds
Scrap metal	~	Hazardous and unsightly Danger to wildlife	Which metals do you think are good to use at sea?	Past industry pollution – examples from coal mining Dispose of responsibly
Fridge	Trees.	Hazardous and unsightly Chemicals leak and danger to wildlife Non biodegradable	Why do you think people dump an old fridge on the beach? What can manufacturers and retailers do to help?	Cost of disposal might be high
Old shoes		Unsightly Laces etc can be a danger to wildlife	What should we do with old shoes?	Old miners' boots, which were once buried in mining waste, occasionally wash up on the beach as the mine waste gets eroded by the sea
Disposable knives and forks	<	Dangerous to stand on Not biodegradable	What's best, knives and forks or fingers when eating on the beach?	Maybe we should be charged extra at takeaways for using disposable cutlery
Cotton buds	4	Micro plastics – ingested by wildlife	What should we do with cotton buds when using them in the bathroom?	End up in the sewage system and then find their way out to sea
Pair of socks		Long time to biodegrade Dangerous to wildlife	Have you ever left anything on the beach by mistake	Careful to take all belongings with you
Old balloon	~	Dangerous to wildlife if swallowed Seals, birds and other wildlife become entangled in balloon strings	What do you think happens to a balloon when it is released?	Should we make mass balloon releases a thing of the past?
Disposable face masks		Dangerous to wildlife if swallowed Elastic – will get wrapped around wildlife necks Non-biodegradable	How did you dispose of your facemasks during the pandemic?	Dispose of responsibly

'Bad Beach' litter item	Issue	Questions	Discussion points
Cigarette ends	Not biodegradable Unsightly Dangerous to wildlife if swallowed	How many ways can you think of why smoking is bad?	Dispose of responsibly Stop smoking
Plastic bag	Not biodegradable Unsightly Get wrapped around wildlife – dangerous if swallowed	What steps have been taken to reduce the use of plastic bags? What have you and your family done?	Dispose of responsibly Use bags for life Charge more for single use bags
Bottle tops	Not biodegradable Unsightly Dangerous if swallowed – will cause animals to choke	How will re-usable cups prevent bottle caps causing problems?	Dispose of responsibly Use reusable bottles and cups
Sweet wrappers	Unsightly Can be swallowed by wildlife	What options are there to having sweets wrapped?	Dispose of responsibly Buy loose sweets in paper bags
Lolly sticks	Unsightly and standing on one can hurt/bruise the foot	What is your favourite flavoured lolly. How could we make an edible lolly stick?	Dispose of responsibly
Firework	Residue chemicals can pollute and be a danger to wildlife Fireworks scare animals	Why should we not set off fireworks close to the beach?	Dispose of responsibly Use eco-friendly and/or silent fireworks Let off away from animals and wildlife
Rubber gloves	Not biodegradable Unsightly Dangerous if swallowed – will cause animals to choke	Why have we seen a large increase in the number of disposable gloves on our beaches over the past 2 years?	Dispose of responsibly Find biodegradable gloves
Child's dummies	Not biodegradable Dangerous if swallowed – will cause animals to choke Dangerous if babies put in their mouth	Can you remember having a dummy?	Dispose of responsibly
Dog poo bag	Dangerous if swallowed – will cause animals to choke Dangerous to humans, especially children	Do you think dogs should be allowed on beaches What do your friends think?	Dispose of responsibly Always follow the rules and use dog poo bins

'Bad Beach' litter item		Issue	Questions	Discussion points
Old plastic toy		Micro plastics – ingested by wildlife Non-biodegradable Unsightly	What are your favourite wooden toys?	Dispose of responsibly Don't throw away – try to find a recycling source
Old brick	500	Unsightly	Why are bricks found on the beach usually really smooth?	Past industry pollution Dispose of responsibly Erosive action of sea/waves causes smoothing and rounding