# Marine Debris Curriculum: An 'In-Depth' Overview 




## STEP 8:

Follow up

- Compare campus debris, coastal cleanup and bolus data to one another
- Ask students to think about how this problem
could be solved


## Introductory Activities: Recognizing Misconceptions

- Surveying Class
- Asking Class Questions
- Raise your hand if.....
- Voting
- Thought Swap


## Surveying Class

- How would you define the term 'marine debris'?
- Where do you think marine debris comes from?
- What animals do you think are affected by marine debris?


## Thought Swap

- Stand in Two Lines, evenly split
- Stand facing another person across from you
- Fellow will state question/write question on the board
- One person answers, other person listens
- Listener will share answers with class
- Write answer out on board
- Example....


## Marine Debris Introduction Powerpoint

- Changing focus of powerpoint for class
- Ideal powerpoint about 20 to 30-minutes
- May want to split up time period with activity
- Making sure to touch on:
- Marine debris
- Land to sea connection
- Seabirds, specifically albatross, as a bioindicator
- Example.... (more information than you need)


## Forming a scientific question...

- ASK A QUESTION......
- You will be:
- Conducting an analysis of the debris on your campus
- Analyzing albatross boluses


## What makes a 'good' scientific investigation question?

"A scientific question is based on a hypothesis or theory that is testable and falsifiable. If you can in no way prove that a hypothesis is wrong, then you accept on faith that it is true, not on evidence."

## While playing with barf, think about....

- What is the average size of plastic found in each bolus (that an albatross swallows)? (PHS)
- Are there similar debris types in the courtyard as in the albatross bolus? (CGHS)
- What is the most common color of plastic found in the albatross boluses? (CGHS)
- What shape of debris would most likely be found in the albatross bolus? (PHS)


## Campus Debris Pick-Up Designing Methods

- Have student groups design sampling scheme

1. Draw and write out plan
2. Present to class - voting!

- Choices:
- Do you want groups to overlap? sample different areas? Size of areas?
- Ideal set-up:
- 15-minute sampling interval
- Measure area with transect tapes
- Various areas around campus (include stream or river)

Equipment you will have available:
6 clipboards with data sheets
6 garbage bags
Plastic gloves (lots)
Transect tapes (Looonnnggg tape measures)
Marking flags (lots)

## Campus Debris Survey



## Campus Debris Pick up Data



## Campus Debris Analysis

- Excel Lesson Plans
- Comparison to Coastal Commission Data




## Bolus Dissection



## Albatross Bolus Dissection Direction

- Boluses are large enough to split btwn 2 grps
- Class of 30 only needs about 3 boluses ( 6 groups of 5 people)
- Boluses were gently pulled apart with hands and forceps.
- Put into categories - categories are listed on data sheet.
- Once sorted, student counted (average) amount of each item
- Data sheets filled out
- Students framed dissected boluses.



## Albatross Bolus Dissection Direction



Squid Beaks
Albatross Bolus Sample from Guadalupe island June 19, 2003
o8S 004

PLASTIC

## Bolus Dissection



## Other Activities and Follow-Up/Debrief

- Tracking Albatross and Trash (Coastal Commission Activity)
- TOPP $\rightarrow$ tagging of pelagic predators website
- TOPP
- Making a 'Bill'
- Assessment Activities
- Seabird and CCS Computer Activity

