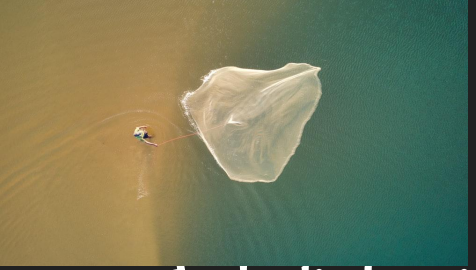
You will be getting a beeswax wrap!

Our Reaction to Microplastic

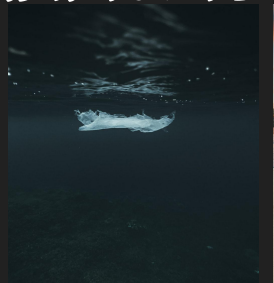
By 5th grade

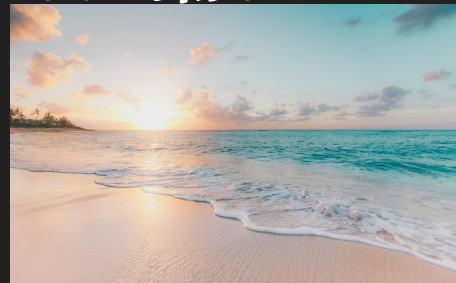
Hello there friends,
I bet you are wondering why you are getting a beeswax wrap. You are getting a reusable beeswax wrap to prevent people from bringing plastic sandwich bags to school. For instance, you could use a beeswax wrap for wrapping up a sandwich or a little snack and so much more. Plastic bags are not natural and you can't recycle them, so people throw them away. The bags can't break down fully and they pollute the ocean and forests and harm animals. So please use the beeswax wrap instead and try not to use plastic as much as you can.



How it began

A plastic bag is a good thing for a while but when you throw it away it does not just go in the trash. It goes in many places and in many ways. When you put the bag in the trash, it goes to the dump. But sometimes the plastic gets blown by the wind and winds up in the ocean. Some make it to a huge garbage patch filled with plastic bags and bottles and many other things. In the ocean, it gets broken down by the waves and the sun 's rays and turns into microplastic, which are tiny miniature pieces of plastic. After, a little fish thinks it is food and eats it. After a while , a bigger fish eats it and a BIGGER fish eats and can get very sick :(:,(





Protocol

The 5th, 6th, and 7th graders wondered if clams could get microplastics stuck inside them...So in our investigation, we went digging for clams at our ocean.

Step 1: We had to make the question:

If we investigate 12 clams from Hog Island and from Drinkwater and digest the clams in hydrogen peroxide inside an incubator, how many pieces of microplastic fibers and how many pieces of microplastic fragments can be found in the 12 clams in each location?

Step 2: Get the materials

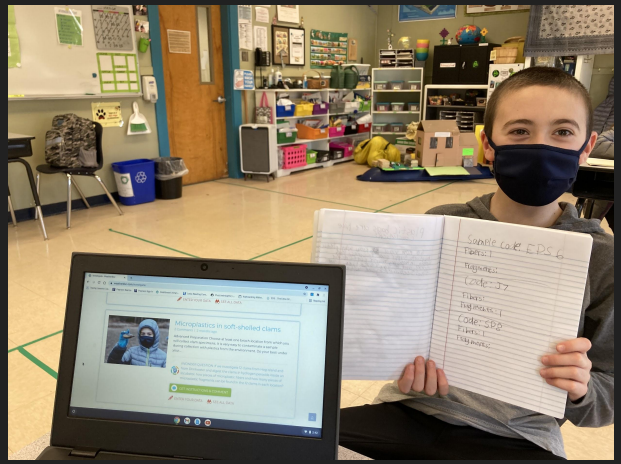
Step 3: We dug the clams

Step 4: Ms. Plummer and Mr. Collins put the clams in the freezer. Then they broke the clams down with Hydrogen peroxide in the incubator.

Step 5. Finally, after they sat in the incubator overnight, we filtered the clams.

Step 6: We put the samples in a petri dish, and then we looked under the microscope

Step 7. After we put the data in Tuva and Weather Blur.



The Microplastic Findings

Clam Data Explanation

In those pictures it shows the average
amount of plastic
Fibers/Fragments we
and the 6th/7th grade found in the clams. A good amount of those clams came from our beach which means we have a lot of plastic at our beach and that's really bad for all sea life and people.

Think of when the teacher did the polar plunge they were jumping into a giant pool of plastic.

Clam Data

Microplastic Fiber

1.90096

On average, in one clam

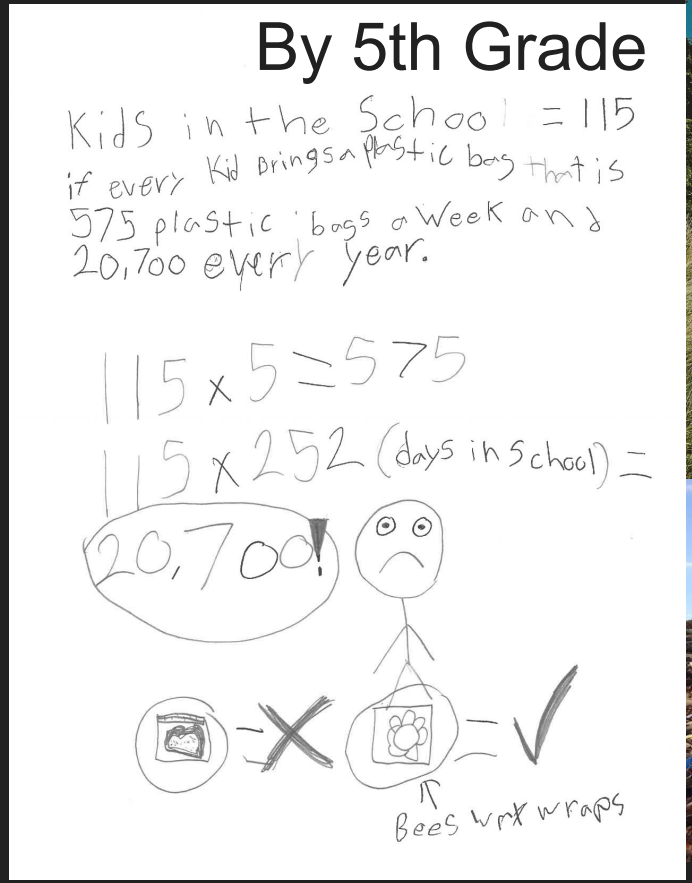
Microplastic Fragments

0.46763

On average, in one clam

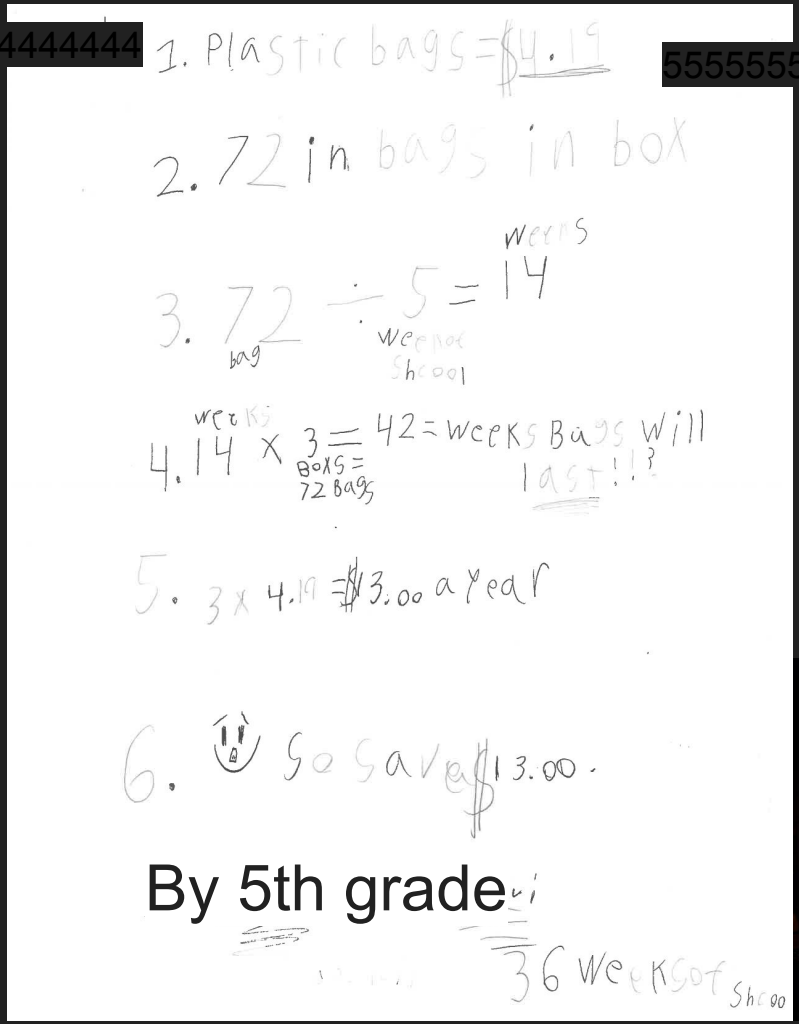
How many plastic sandwich bags do we use in a year?

The sea is full of plastic. If all the kids in our school brought a plastic baggie every day, the school is throwing away 20,700+ small plastic bags a year. And 575 a week.



Money Spent

If you are using plastic bags then you are wasting $13.00 a year for one kid on harming the environment. For all the kids in the school that's $1,495 if every student brings in a plastic bag. Some kids even bring like 3 in one day.



The Act

Since we found all this plastic in the clams, we wanted to make the beeswax wraps because we want to reduce the number of plastic baggies on Earth and in the school.

Help the environment. bark!!!

Better than plastic

Beeswax is much better for the environment than plastic. Beeswax is a natural resource in nature. BUT PLASTIC!!!!!!!!... harms the earth in so many ways like kills animals, sea animals, and could harm us humans when we eat clams or fish who had eaten the plastic.

Ps do not throw plastic in the woods or the sea

or this will happen.

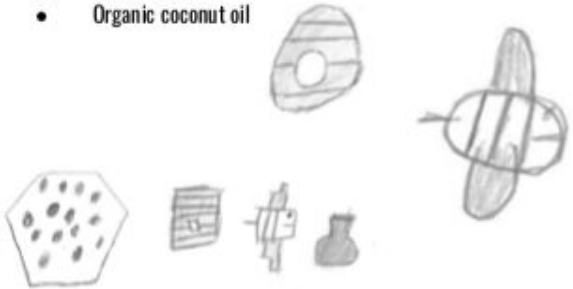
Beeswax can help us all

Beeswax is a good resource because it is made by nature so that is why we are using it instead of plastic sandwich wraps. To keep it healthy we are adding tree resin, organic jojoba oil, organic coconut oil, and 100% cotton fabric.

ABOUT

These Bobcat Beez Wraps will change your expenses AND your Earth; our Earth. Bobcat Beez Wraps are homemade, made in Northport, Maine, Edna Drinkwater School. The students who created these worked hard for all of you, and the world. You can use Bobcat Beez Wraps for storing food (wet or dry). These are natural beeswax wraps that were created to save our planet against the indestructible plastic pollution. The ingredients we used are:

- 100% cotton fabric
- Tree resin (sticky substance that comes from trees)
- Beeswax
- Organic jojoba oil
- Organic coconut oil



TO USE AND TO NOT

WARNING:

Do NOT wash these Bobcat Beez Wraps under hot water; in other words, use cold water to wash them. Also, do NOT iron, microwave, or heat as wax will melt!

IMPORTANT INFO:
These wraps will not harm your food. And they do not suck in water. Thankfully, our Bobcat Beez Wraps do not get your hands sticky.

HOW TO WRAP YOUR SANDWICH:
(When molding, use your hands' warmth to stick the wax together)

1. Lay you wrap on a hard surface with NO folds
2. Fold it one corner to one corner so it looks like a triangle
3. Fold one corner to one third of the way across
4. Fold the other corner to the new corner
5. Tuck flap inside so it looks like an envelope to make it firm
6. Fold down the top flap
7. Open up to see pocket
8. Place your sandwich inside
9. Place flaps together and fold over a few times
10. Press to secure
11. ALL DONE

Conclusion

I, myself, pledge to all the oceans, all beaches, and to the Earth in all, to reuse and recycle plastic (if you are forced to use it), never pollute plastic, to reduce the number of single-use plastic, and to use this beeswax baggie as much as possible.

Signed,

Thank You Sources

Thanks to Weather Blur for successfully making the question work.

We all thank Tuva for having us play around with the data table.

Big thanks to Unsplash.com for letting us use the photos.

Thanks to Mr. Collins for filtering clams.

Thanks to Mrs. Bierwas and Mr. Nate for giving us the card stock.

Thanks to Mrs. Bartlett for letting us use your oven.

Thanks to Mrs. Horton (and Mr. Horton!) for helping with making the Bobcat Beez Wraps!

Also thanks to the 6th and 7th graders for doing this investigation with us.

And final thanks to Ms. Plummer's Camera.