Plastics Scientific Enquiry

1. What is your product? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

2. What is it used for? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

3. Is it a single-use plastic? *(Circle answer)* YES NO

If yes, why is it only single use? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_­­­\_\_\_

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4. How would you describe the material used to make your product? Gently try to bend the product to help you decide.

*(Circle all of the words that describe your product)*

Transparent Translucent Opaque

Rigid Flexible Fragile Durable

5. Use a pair of scissors, or a compass point to scratch the product. Does it scratch easily? Does it leave a mark? How would you describe your product after this test? (*Circle your answers)*

Hard Soft Strong Weak Tough Brittle

6. Gently place your product into a tray or container of water. Leave it still for 5 minutes whilst continuing with the questions. Does it float?

YES NO

After 5 minutes gently stir the water round to mimic wave action. Does your product now sink?

YES NO

7. Look at your product. Is there a plastic identification code present? If yes, draw the symbol below. If it is not present, use the support sheet to find your product and its relevant code. Draw the symbol below.

8. What is the full name of the plastic used for your product? Use the support sheet to help you.

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9. Name another item that can be made from this plastic.

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10. What attributes does your plastic have that makes it so useful?

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11. Plastic has been found on every beach in the world, even remote islands where no one lives. Your product may have been found there. Suggest ways your product ended up in the ocean and on these beaches.

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12. Using the support sheet and team discussions, identify how your product potentially causes damage to wildlife and habitats.

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13. How could you avoid using this product?

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14. Can you recycle your product?

YES NO

15. How could everyone in your school reduce the amount of this product that is wasted? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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