

# Drew's Marine Clean

DAVID

LUKE

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Drew loves walking by his local river with his friends, but he was shocked to regularly see litter polluting the river. He decided to take action by completing regular litter-picks along the river bank with his mates. In no time at all, his local area was improving for the benefit of everyone thanks to Drew and his friends... Read on to discover Drew's top tips for cleaning up a marine environment.

## Step 1: Marines

First, you need to decide who is going to participate in your Marine Clean and be appointed Marines. Anyone in a school can be involved in a marine clean, you could even invite members of your local community to participate.

## Step 2: River Rubbish Review

Next, you need to decide on the marine area you are going to clean. You could clean along rivers, canals, beaches or lakes. Find a really grubby area that is in need of a good clean and remember to take a before and after photo to show people how even small actions can make big differences.

## Step 3: Sea Strategy

Now you have found a suitable location, it is time to begin planning your Marine Clean. Drew recommends staying dry and targeting areas such as river banks, beaches, lakesides and canal paths with litter-pickers. Nets and waders can be used to begin gathering litter from rivers, canals or lakes as long as you do this safely with supervision. Eventually, Drew's goal is to complete a litter-pick while canoeing. Once you have collected your litter it is time to take it back to school and recycle appropriately.

## Step 4: Sea of Knowledge

Drew thinks that while cleaning marine environments outside your school, classes could complete work on the water cycle inside your school; he thinks that this would help people appreciate just how important it is to preserve our marine environments. Other ideas Drew had included tracking how quickly a plastic bottle could end up in the ocean, looking at an interactive plastic ocean map that shows where plastic is accumulating in the world's oceans or creating a tally chart to discover which company is responsible for the most litter and sending a letter to them.

## Step 5: River Reach-Out

Drew wants as many people as possible involved in his Marine Clean idea and he thinks the best way to do this is through positivity. During litter-picks, Drew always emphasises how brilliant it is being outside and how great it feels knowing you are making a difference. He also suggests spreading the message through posters and local media as well as involving local groups like Scouts or Brownies. Remember, every piece of litter collected is one piece of litter less in the ocean.

## Step 6: Fishy Feedback

Drew has thought of an ingenious, unique and engaging way of monitoring the progress of a Marine Clean: litter bingo! Simply create a variety of bingo cards made up of litter you may find. The winner is the individual who completes their bingo card first. If this is not for you, before and after photos are great demonstrations of how much you have improved an area or simply keeping a tally of the number of pieces of litter you have found can also be very powerful.

## Step 7: Canal-Code

Drew says: Look out litter here we come, when we arrive you'll be gone, what do you say?



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