**Study material**

**Lead-in**

* Use pictures and/or texts to get your learners thinking about the benefits as well as the damage, caused by plastic.
* Depending on your learners, use the text below to create a gap-fill or a reading activity:

*“Plastic is all around us and it is, undeniably, incredibly useful. However, it is also toxic and takes millennia to breakdown. It gets into our waterways, onto our dinner plates, harms and kills mammals, birds and marine life by trapping them or resulting in starvation; fishing nets are made of it, bottles and bags, even the skin creams we use contain micro-plastics (so small we can’t even see them). Our mindless use and disposal of plastic has to stop and we can stop it, if we just change our habits. We know what to do so let’s do it!”*

The Fire Warriors this month will find out why we have so much plastic in our lives. You will find out how and why plastic is used and who uses it. Choose two groups to compare (maybe older and younger people, people from different countries, people that live in the countryside and people who live in cities – you decide!). You will decide what questions to ask (for example: ‘Where is the majority of plastic in your home?’ or ‘Could you use something instead of plastic?’). Conduct surveys (asking people in your family, people in your school, for example) and present your results in graphs and tables Write a few sentences explaining your findings.

Page 2 is for making notes and page 3, when complete, is to be uploaded to stemgingereducation.com.

Let’s find out how and why plastic is used and who uses it!

Choose two groups to compare (maybe older and younger people, people from different countries, people that live in the countryside and people who live in cities – you decide!).

* Write questions (e.g. *Do you use plastic every day? Do you think plastic is essential in your life? What is the most important use of plastic?).*
* Decide how many people in each group you are going to ask.
* Ask different people your questions and write down your results.
* Display your results in graphs / on posters (see below for examples).
* Summary – Write about your findings and summarise your ideas. Think about: *Do we really need to use so much plastic? What could we use instead?*
* Upload your results to STEM Ginger Education (a poster, approximately one side of A4).

Figure 1 - Why do you use plastic?

Figure 2 - How often do you use plastic?

Group name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Table/graph of results to question asked: “\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_?”**

**The Power of Plastic: My findings**

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