



## Fun with Trash:

A thought-provoking beach clean up

My ten year old daughter, Rosie, and I needed a break from Cornona Quarantine today, so we decided to take a walk to our neighborhood beach. What a lot of trash has washed up over the winter! As we picked it up, we thought "Hey how did all of this get here anyway?" This is the story of how we tried to answer that question...



First, we set up two study sites, 10 paces wide, on two different sections of the shoreline. Rosie carefully paced them out and marked them with long pieces of driftwood she found.



Next, we picked up all trash within each of our study sites.

Shadow wanted to play too...



There goes our carefully delineated study site!



Next, we dumped out all we collected from our two study sites and sorted them into categories. Here is what we found...



Food shrapnel

Site 1

Site 2



Miscellaneous bits of hard plastic



Site 1

Site 2



Shell casings  
(we are on the Eastern  
Shore, after all!)



We also found...  
Food labels, ribbon,  
broken toy parts &  
duct tape!





This prompted us to sit in the sun & ask ourselves...

Where did all this trash come from?

Did someone throw it overboard or on the ground?

Did they loose in in the surf one day?

What would happen if fish, crabs or turtles ate this trash?

**How can we keep trash OUT of our waters?**