

**A Gold Award Patch Program
by Amelia McKay**

*Learn about the dangers of plastics,
microplastics and ocean debris and how you can
reduce your plastic footprint in simple ways.*

girl scouts 
of tropical florida

How to complete the plastic smART patch program:

Introduction:

For the most comprehensive and efficient way to complete **plastic smART**, schedule a **plastic smART** field trip through Miami EcoAdventures

Contact Info:

miamidadeparks.com

ecoadventures@miamidade.gov

305-666-5885

OR participate in another organized beach clean up with Clean Miami Beach, the Plastic Fisherman, Miami Waterkeeper or Debris Free Oceans. You can also find all of these local organization on Instagram

Use the Clean Swell app to log your collected debris.

- Download the app from the app store & create an account. Only 1 person needs to track for the group.
- Start a new cleanup by clicking on “Start” on the home screen.
- Input the data on the next screen: Number of people, Group name, Cleanup type, and Location
- Group Name: plastic smART [exactly as shown]
- Click “Start a new cleanup”
- Start logging your debris finds using the list provided in the app.
- Remember to submit your cleanup when you finish!



The Clean Swell app by the Ocean Conservancy is a free mobile application available for Apple and Android. Please download and create an account before your scheduled event.

plastic smART Program Instructions:

1. Schedule your adventure with EcoAdventures OR plan your own cleanup activity with one of the local organizations mentioned in the introduction.
2. Complete the EcoAdventures Program OR complete the required number of activities for your level on the self-directed smART page.
3. Make sure to take photos, lots of photos. Tag on Instagram @gold.plastic_smart_ to be featured. Please also send photos to customercare@girlscoutsfl.org.
4. Once you have completed the program or self-directed activities, you can purchase the patch from the **GSTF online shop**.



Self-Directed plastic smART Guidelines:

1. Girl Scout **Daisies** - Complete 1 activity from each letter of the smART page. One activity must be a beach cleanup.
2. Girl Scout **Brownies** - Complete 1 activity from each letter of the smART page. Complete 1 more activity of your choice. One activity must be a beach cleanup.
3. Girl Scout **Juniors** - Complete 1 activity from each letter of the smART page. One activity must be a beach cleanup. Complete 2 more activities of your choice.
4. Girl Scout **Cadettes** - Complete 1 activity from each letter of the smART page. One activity must be a beach cleanup. Complete 3 more activities of your choice.
5. Girl Scout **Seniors & Ambassadors** - Complete 1 activity from each letter of the smART page. One activity must be a beach cleanup. Complete 4 more activities of your choice.
6. Make sure to take photos, lots of photos. Tag on Instagram @gold.plastic_smart_ to be featured. Please also send photos to customercare@girlscoutsfl.org.
7. Once you have completed the self-directed program, you can purchase the patch from the **GSTF online shop**.



<p style="text-align: center; font-size: 48pt; font-weight: bold;">S</p>	<p style="text-align: center; font-size: 24pt; font-weight: bold;">Seek</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Find out how plastic debris harms our oceans and waterways. 2. Find out about the health risks plastics cause for humans. 3. Find out some of the reasons why there is so much plastic floating in the ocean. 4. Find out about the Great Pacific Garbage Patch. 5. Find out what local organizations are doing things to help solve the plastic problem.
<p style="text-align: center; font-size: 48pt; font-weight: bold;">m</p>	<p style="text-align: center; font-size: 24pt; font-weight: bold;">Make change</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Schedule a plastic smART field trip with your troop through Miami EcoAdventures. 2. Do a cleanup with your troop, friends, or family at a park, beach, bay, trail, or lake. Anywhere really! 3. Join the Plastic Fisherman for a Plastic Fishing Festival. You can find out about his events on Facebook or Instagram. 4. Volunteer with Miami Waterkeepers or Debris Free Oceans.
<p style="text-align: center; font-size: 48pt; font-weight: bold; color: red;">A</p>	<p style="text-align: center; font-size: 24pt; font-weight: bold; color: red;">Art</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Use the plastic you found during your beach cleanup to make something beautiful. Take a photo of you masterpieces and tag @gold.plast_smart_ on Instagram. 2. Make something out of single-use plastic grocery bags. 3. Repurpose a piece of clothing you don't wear anymore. Give it new life! 4. Research other projects you can make with found items. Try one.
<p style="text-align: center; font-size: 48pt; font-weight: bold; color: blue;">R</p>	<p style="text-align: center; font-size: 24pt; font-weight: bold; color: blue;">Reuse, Reduce, Repurpose</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Track your single-use plastic use for 1 week. This is your plastic footprint. How can you reduce how much you use next week? 2. Use your one-week footprint to calculate how much you would use in a year. Think about that number multiplied by the number of people in your family or the number of girls in your troop. 3. Make a list of the simple ways you can commit to using less single-use plastic. 4. Find out about recycling in Miami-Dade County [bonus: globally].
<p style="text-align: center; font-size: 48pt; font-weight: bold; color: orange;">T</p>	<p style="text-align: center; font-size: 24pt; font-weight: bold; color: orange;">Tell others</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Make a flyer or brochure about what you have learned [bonus if you share it at school]. 2. Make a video about what you learned and share it with another troop or girls from your troop. 3. Make a reel highlighting your activities and tag @gold.plastic_smart_ on Instagram. [For older girls OR with adult assistance] 4. Write your local, state and federal officials asking them to make/support legislation against single-use plastics.

plastic smART Resource Videos:

Leaders/Adults should preview videos and choose the best option/s for their troop and age levels.

Why We Need to Stop Plastic Pollution in our Oceans: FOR GOOD by Oceana

Narrated by Sam Waterson



The Story of Plastic: An Animated Short

by The Story of Stuff Project

What a Waste: The Truth About Plastics Pollution

by Kite and Key Media



Everything We Know About Ocean Plastics So Far

by The Ocean Cleanup

plastic smART Resource Videos:

Leaders/Adults should preview videos and choose the best option/s for their troop and age levels.

How We Can Keep Plastics Out of Our Ocean by National Geographic



Sea Pollution | Ocean Pollution for Kids by Learning Mole

What Causes Plastic Pollution by The Dr. Binocs Show: Peekaboo Kids

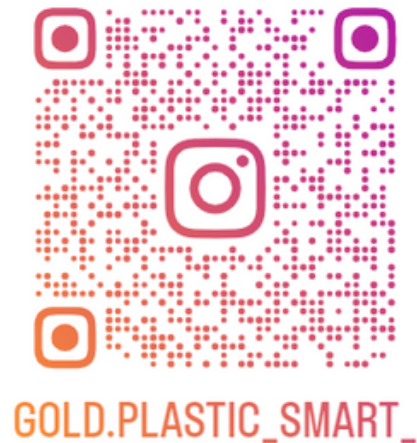


Plastic Ocean by United Nations



To Learn More:

Visit the [plastic smART website](#) & follow on Instagram where I share current information regarding plastics, microplastics, and the environment



Check out our local water heroes on Instagram:



[Clean Miami Beach](#)



[Miami Waterkeeper](#)

[Plastic Fisherman](#)

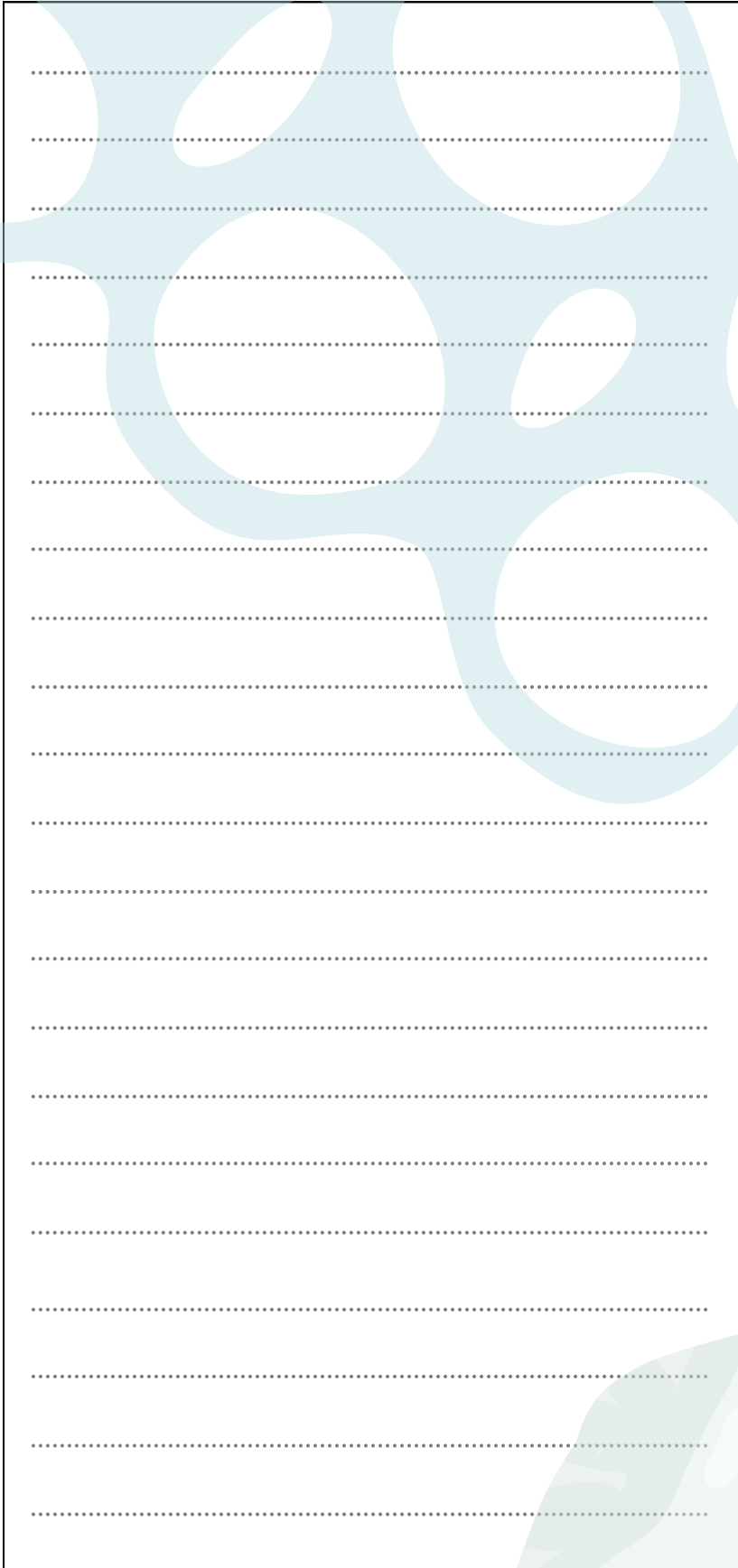


[Debris Free Oceans](#)



Notes :

Use this page to help you with your research OR to help you plan your flyer, brochure or Instagram reel. Print an extra page if you need more room.



A large vertical rectangular area with horizontal dotted lines for writing, intended for research or planning.

