



Article Guide: Plastic straw bans: environmental awakening or just a distraction?

<http://scienceovereverything.com/2019/02/22/plastic-straw-bans/>

Part 1:

Directions:

- Read the entire article “Plastic straw bans: environmental awakening or just a distraction?” to yourself
 - Box vocabulary words or words that you have not seen before
 - Underline in the text where the focus questions are addressed
- Answer each focus question

Focus questions

1. How much plastic ends up in our oceans? How much of that is from plastic straws?

2. What factor(s) made manufacturing plastic straws cheaper?

3. What are some alternatives to plastic straws?

Part 2:

Directions:

- Read each understanding question
 - Think about what you would need to know to answer that question
- Read the article a second time as a class.
 - Answer each understanding questions together

Understanding questions

1. Single-use plastics are convenient for humans because of their durability. Explain why plastics last so long and why that's a problem for ecosystems?

2. Why would people with certain physical disabilities be harmed if plastic straws were not available?

Part 3:

Extension Question

Read the article a third time with a partner. Then discuss the pros and cons of a citywide ban on plastic straws. Think about the different factors you read about in the article including environmental and personal. Based on your notes, choose a position on plastic straws and advocate for in a class discussion.

Pros	Cons

Discussion Notes: