

# SCIENCE

## FROM HOME



## The Breakdown

Plastic products make up our everyday lives, but after we are done using them they will be around far longer than we are in some cases. Try this matching activity to see if you know how long it takes for common plastics to break down.

### Know before you begin

- This activity can be done inside or outside
- Adult supervision is recommended
- Please choose a safe space to play

### Materials

- Plastic breakdown page

### Instructions

- Match the plastic to the time it takes to break down  
What are some alternatives you use in your home?

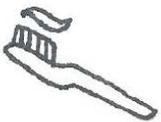
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Plastic Water  
Bottle

20 Years



Plastic  
Toothbrush

200 Years



Plastic Straw

450 Years



Plastic Bag

500 Years



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Answer Key:

Plastic bag = 20 years to breakdown

Plastic Straw= 200 years to breakdown

Plastic Water Bottle= 450 years to breakdown

Plastic Toothbrush= 500 years to break down

Information from <https://phys.org/news/2020-06-lifetimes-plastics.html>