

EU Video Contest on Marine Litter

– info for teachers (pedagogic perspective)

Why should you participate with your students?

Getting a team of students involved with marine litter by producing a short movie will be beneficial in the following ways:

- Marine litter is a complex social and environmental issue but still easy to grasp – look around you;
- The students will join a European initiative, with 13 other countries, considering a problem that does not stop at national borders;
- Marine litter is a multi-disciplinary and educative topic: Students can approach the topic through a combination of subjects including numeracy, literacy, the sciences, art, sociology, geography, ICT, and economics. Therefore it can fit nicely in the standard school curriculum or considered as complementary activity;
- It's fun and innovative: it will foster creativity, use of technological and multimedia tools but also the capacity to define a message and get it across effectively;
- It encourages team work and application of individual strengths;
- It will promote proactivity and citizenship: Students are encouraged to reflect about their attitudes and behaviours, consider possible solutions and develop a sense of ownership and responsibility over the problem that they are inheriting from the previous generations;
- Young people become the motors for change in society – not only because they can directly influence their families and communities but also because they can reach and inspire the broader public through their videos;
- To crown it all, apart from the great national awards, representatives of the winning team from the different countries will be invited to take part at a high level event organised by the European Commission, in Bremen (Germany), where the compilation of the best videos will be premiered! The winning Irish film will also feature at the Junior Galway Film Fleadh (November 2014).

What kind of support is available for you?

Participating in this contest does not mean that you have to do it alone! We can support you in several ways:

- MARLISCO is producing a series of educational material, in several languages, which you are encouraged to use with your students; (available in September 2013)
- There will be a Facebook page available for communication purposes and support where students can directly post their questions and other comments.
- We will hold two film workshops run by experts in the field of film making to give an introduction to film making and editing as well as to support participants. Two representatives per school can attend each workshop to help your class get in touch with the subject and prepare the video (more information will be available soon).