

# <https://polar-ice.org/focus-areas/polar-data-stories/where-are-those-microplastics-coming-from-and-going/>

## Where are those microplastics coming from and going?

Where do we find microplastics around Antarctica, what influences where we find them, and what does that mean for life around Antarctica?

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 End

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Explore the Data Story as your students would while we wait to start the webinar...

### 1) Let's explore microplastics

**Microplastics** are pieces of plastic that have broken off of, or down from, plastic items that we use OR that have been purposefully made to be super small. Often microplastics end up in our waterways and oceans.

Scientists are asking a range of questions about microplastics in their research. For example, where do they come from? Where do they go? How many do we find? What kinds do we find in different places? Where do we find them?

Let's collect some data on microplastics to see what the scientists are using to answer their questions!

Credits: Oregon State University



Credits: Oregon State University



Credits: Alejandro Roman - Gonzalez



Credits: NMFS



# Data Stories Series - Microplastics, where are you?

Wednesday, June 6, 2018



# Icebreaker poll

What aspects of microplastics do you have questions about?

- Where they come from?
- Where we find them around the world?
- How many there are in the world?
- What eats them thinking they are food?
- I have no idea, but I'm SO excited to learn!

# Thank you for joining us



**Dr. Alexis Janosik**  
Assistant Professor  
Department of Biology, University of West  
Florida



**Kristin Hunter-Thomson**  
Data Stories Series Coordinator  
Program Director, Teaching Instructor  
Rutgers University

# Tonight's agenda

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8:00 pm: Welcome and webinar logistics

8:10 pm: Getting to know Alexis & her work

8:45 pm: Brainstorming how to bring this into our classrooms

8:55 pm: Next steps and evaluation

# What it is and what it isn't

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Chance to  
explore data  
from the polar  
regions

~~Fully developed  
Lesson/Unit Plan  
to teach the  
concepts~~

# Approach to this Data Story



Conceptual  
Understanding





# Alexis & her science...



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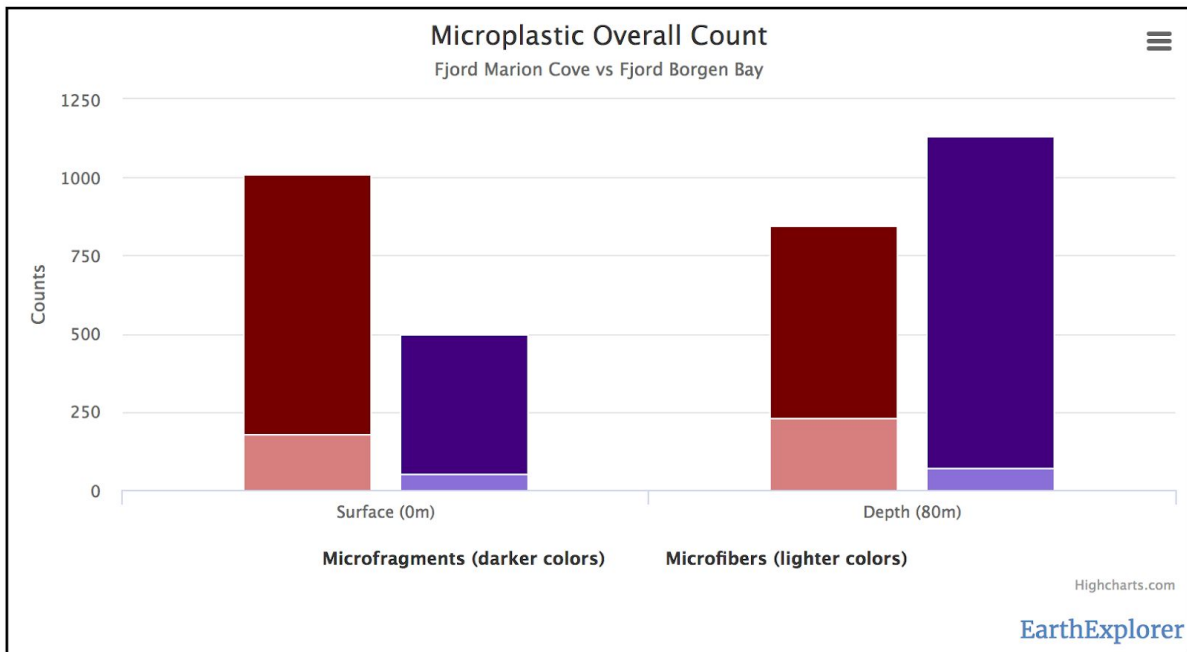
← Prev Next →

## 6) Pulling it all together

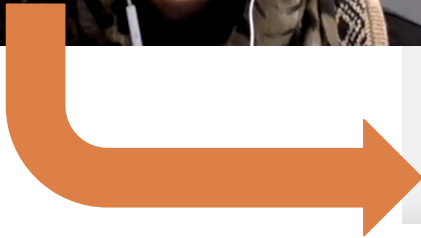
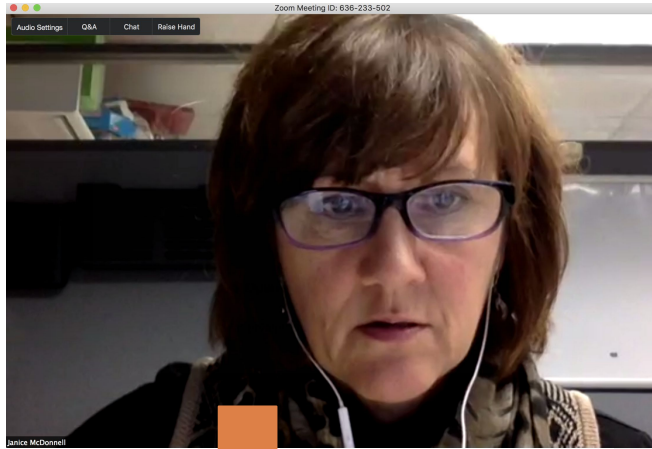
OK, let's look at both fjords together.

Where do we find microplastics overall in Fjord Borgen Bay in comparison to Fjord Marion Cove? Why do you think that pattern may occur?

What did you find surprising about where we find microplastics around the Western Antarctic Peninsula?



# Promoting to Panelist



The host has promoted you to a panelist.

Rejoining...

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3  
Participants

Mute Me Raise Hand

Chat

To: All panelists More

Type message here...

# Use in classroom poll

What are some ways that we can envision bringing this into our classrooms?

- Use as “Do Now”
- Build into existing lesson/unit
- Assign as extra credit
- Build their data skills
- Include in tests as application of content
- Other

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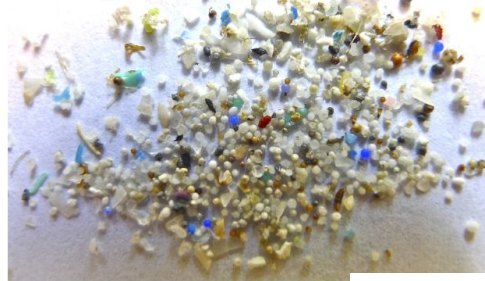
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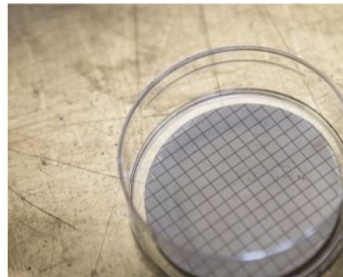
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Credits: Oregon State University



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Credits: Alejandro Roman-Gonzalez

What data skills are you using?  
What questions do you have?  
What do you like?  
What is frustrating?

Credits: NMFS

# Polar Literacy Principles

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#1 - The Arctic and Antarctic Regions are unique because of their location on Earth.

#5 - The Poles are experiencing the effects of climate change at an accelerating rate.

# Next steps

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Open indefinitely

Recording of webinar posted by 6/8/18

“Answer recording” posted on 6/13/18

<https://polar-ice.org/focus-areas/polar-data-stories/>

# Resources provided

## Where are those microplastics coming from and going? (June 2018)

- [Where are those microplastics coming from and going?](#) – Link to Data Story
- Listen to Dr. Alexis Janosik interpret the data from this Data Story
- *Related Lessons:*
  - #7: Micro-Plastic Investigation in [An Educator's Guide to Marine Debris](#) (by [North American Marine Environment Protection Association \(NAMEPA\)](#) and [National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration \(NOAA\)](#))
  - [Mitigating Microplastics](#) (by Marie Kowalski, [Oregon Sea Grant / Oregon State University](#))
  - [Marine Debris: Fishing for Microplastics in Your Home](#) (by Julie Masura, [University of Washington – Tacoma](#))
- *Related Data:* (coming 6/8/18)
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- *Related Resources:*
  - [Polar Literacy Principle # 1](#) – The Arctic and Antarctic Regions are unique because of their location on Earth.
  - [Polar Literacy Principle # 5](#) – The Poles are experiencing the effects of climate change at an accelerating rate.

## June 6, 2018 Teacher Webinar with Dr. Alexis Janosik – Resources (coming 6/8/18)

- Zoom Recording
- Presentation slidedeck





# Thank you for joining us!

