Think pair share- plastic disposal (15 min)

**Summary:** Students should think about how they dispose of their (plastic) waste- at home, at school, when out and about.  Then, discuss with their groups and ask a few groups to share with the class.

ILOs:

1. List various forms of waste disposal commonly practiced locally

**Equipment list:**

Same set of plastic from Recycling Race

**Intro:**

Earlier, we collected and sorted plastics based on categories that you developed for recycling. Now, we will discuss how you recycle at home, or how you’ve seen plastic recycled in your area. Think about which objects would be recycled, and which would be considered trash.

**Procedure:**

Discuss what the recycling rules are for your area. Then sort the objects that you have from the recycling race according to those rules.

**Discussion questions/debrief:**

1. Looking at the items in front of you talk about how you dispose of them at home
   1. Does your house recycle, discard, reuse?
   2. What does your community/neighborhood enable or not make possible?
2. Now that you know a bit more about types of polymers can you identify them in the items you have in front of you?
   1. Do they happen to coincide with the groupings you made or differ?
3. How do you thing the different kinds of polymers or other materials in the products in front of you impact what happens to them when you put them in the trash, recycle, reusing?
   1. How might this influence what your community enables
   2. How may this change how you think about what you do with these items when you are done with them?

**Lab handout needed?**

No