Follow the Tabling 101 guidelines. If you’re doing this in a common area rather than a structured setting, think about what makes passersby want to engage in a tabling activity. Combine these strategies with one of the following prompts (or a variation) to draw people to your table. The prompt should be attention-grabbing, but should also relate specifically to the outreach.

Prompts:
- *Use a prompt to grab the attention of passersby and encourage them to spin the wheel and play the game. Use trial and error to determine the most effective prompt(s).*

Once They're at the Table:
- *If they’re playing by themselves:*
  - You get to spin the wheel three times and I’ll ask you three different questions about plastics and ocean health. If you get all three right, you’ll win _________. Even if you get them all wrong, you’ll still earn a sticker.
- *If they’re competing game show-style:*
  - You’ll take turns spinning the wheel and answering questions. If you get the answer wrong, your opponent will get a chance to steal.
  - First person to get ___ answers right wins.
  - *(Flip a coin or have them play rock, paper, scissors to see who goes first.)*

Questions, Answers, & Talking Points

Q. There are 51 trillion pieces of plastic in the ocean, and 90% of that ocean plastic is microscopic. What does ingesting microscopic plastic do to animals’ bodies?

A. It can block their digestive tracts and starve them  
B. It exposes them to toxic chemicals  
C. It is often fatal  
D. All of the above

When animals ingest plastic waste, it can block their digestive tracts. As a result, they starve. Toxic chemicals in plastic can harm animals’ health and can even lead to their death.

*(source: National Geographic)*

Q. How many species are known to have been affected by plastics?

A. 50  
B. 200  
C. 700  
D. 2000

Sea turtles, sea lions, seals, whales and dolphins are just a few. Sadly, microscopic plastic is now reaching organisms at the base of the marine food chain, and as marine life ingests these chemicals, they make their way up the food chain to humans. Scientists are now finding more and more organisms with intestines lined with microplastics.

*(source: Environment North Carolina)*
Q. What is the best way you can help solve the ocean plastic crisis through your daily decisions?

A. **Reduce your consumption of single-use plastics whenever possible**
B. Recycle your plastic bottles
C. Bring your plastic bags to grocery stores for recycling
D. All of the above

*Recycling is certainly better than landfills them, but to really make an impact, we need to avoid using single-use plastics in the first place.*

Q. The Great Pacific Garbage Patch, the largest of the five offshore plastic accumulation zones in the world’s oceans, is twice the size of what US state?

A. Rhode Island
B. New Jersey
C. North Carolina
D. **Texas**

*It contains 1.8 trillion pieces of plastic. That’s twice the size of Texas and three times the size of France.*

*(source: CNN)*

Q. On average, a garbage truck’s worth of plastic ends up in the ocean every ________.

A. second
B. **minute**
C. hour
D. day

*Every year, about 8 million tons of plastic waste escapes into the oceans from coastal nations. That’s the equivalent of setting five garbage bags full of trash on every foot of coastline around the world.*

*(source: Oceana)*

Q. Removing all of the plastic straws from the ocean would reduce ocean plastic by what percentage?

A. **0.0%**
B. 2.4%
C. 9.9%
D. 21.0%

*Straws comprise just 0.025% of the plastic that enters the ocean each year. Yes, they cause problems and there are better alternatives, but we need to think bigger.*

*(source: National Geographic)*

Q. In the US, legislation has been passed in 482 municipalities that either bans or places a tax on plastic shopping bags. How many of these municipalities are in North Carolina?
A. 1
B. 3
C. 10
D. 28

This is a bit of a trick question. In 2009, new laws banned plastic bags in Hyde, Dare, and Currituck Counties, all of which are along the coast. However, this ban was repealed in 2017, meaning there are currently no laws targeting plastic bag use in North Carolina.

(source: Bag the Ban, Wilmington Star News)

Once the Game is Over:

• While Wake Forest is pretty far from an ocean, our daily actions can have a huge affect on ocean health, marine, health, and even human health.

• Now that you’ve gotten a glimpse of how people affect the ocean, what will you do differently to be part of the solution?

• Feel free to make a pledge on a white board and hold it up for a photo.

Tabling 101

“Tabling,” or staffing an interactive event with the purpose of educating and engaging the university community, is an important part of our outreach and behavior change efforts. Your enthusiastic participation in these outreach events is essential to the success of any behavior change campaign. It is important to have fun at these events, but also to take this job seriously. Below are some basic tips for effective tabling.

Do:

• Stand behind the table or slightly in front of the table.
• Invite passers-by to join you at the table. Greet them and ask if they are interested in participating.
• Use clear and concise communication. Take a few minutes to practice your pitch so that you are prepared to deliver a short, accurate summary to every person who comes to the table. It’s often best to begin with a question as your prompt.
• Smile and exhibit a positive attitude. Sustainability is fun, tabling is fun, and people want to join other people who are having fun.
• Thank participants for their time and suggest at least one more way they can get involved with campus sustainability (e.g. mention that they can find more info on the office’s website, invite them to sign up to get more information delivered to their inbox, or mention an upcoming lecture or event).

Don’t:

• Be late for your shift. Your colleagues are counting on you.
• Sit behind the table. We usually don’t even have chairs, so this shouldn’t be a temptation.
• Read, play on your phone, or dig through your bag. This makes it look like you are disinterested, bored, or unapproachable, which prevents people from wanting to talk to you. You will also miss out on opportunities to invite people to join you at the table.
• Mumble or insult participants. This is not the place for inside jokes, sarcasm, or vagueness.
• Give inaccurate information. If you don’t know the answer to a question, take the person’s email address and let them know that you or someone from the office will get back to them.
How many species are known to have been affected by plastics?

A. 500
B. 1000
C. 2000
D. 10000

What is the best way you can help solve the ocean plastic crisis?

A. Reduce single-use plastics
B. Support legislation to ban plastics
C. Join a beach clean-up
D. All of the above

Ocean plastics result from all of the following:

A. Land-based sources
B. Marine debris
C. Single-use plastics
D. All of the above

In 2019, the US mandatorily banned a certain type of plastic. Which type?

A. Plastic straws
B. Plastic bags
C. Plastic bottles
D. Plastic cups

Ocean pollution is a serious threat to marine life because:

A. It reduces oxygen levels
B. It introduces harmful chemicals
C. It blocks sunlight
D. All of the above

The circular economy approach is to reduce, reuse, and:

A. Recycle
B. Repurpose
C. Reduce
D. All of the above