



HOW TO MAKE COMPOST

Have you seen a compost pile in someone's backyard? Or heard talk of using compost in a garden? Learn about compost and the process of decomposition by making compost.

This week's activity: Make Compost

How to Make Compost

Suggested Materials:

- Large plastic cup
- Organic matter (leaves, fruit and vegetable scraps, grass clippings, eggshells, coffee grinds, etc.)
- Scissors
- Large Bowl
- Large Spoon
- 2 Tablespoons of water
- ¼ cup soil
- Plastic Wrap
- Rubber Band
- Small Saucer



Directions:

1. Poke several holes in the bottom of the cup.
2. Use scissors to cut the leaves into small pieces. Add to bowl. Combine other organic matter, such as a tea bag or apple core, into bowl and stir together.
3. Add 2 tablespoons of water then add the soil.
4. Scoop two heaping spoons full of compostable material into the cup.
5. Cover the top of the compost cup with plastic wrap and use the rubber band to tightly seal around edges.
6. Find a nice warm spot (preferably sunny) for the cup. Gently shake the cup and place on saucer for the water to drain. Every few days you'll need to add a tablespoon of water to the compost mix and shake it up a bit. This helps the bacteria work harder and break down faster the compost.



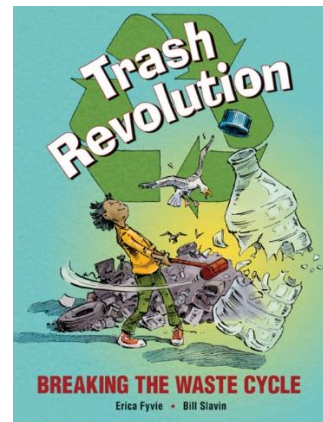
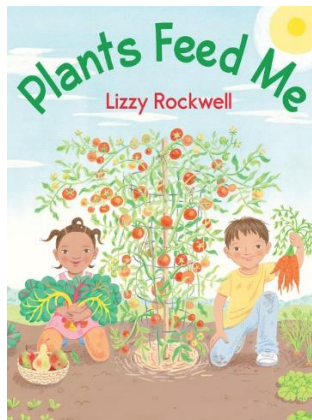
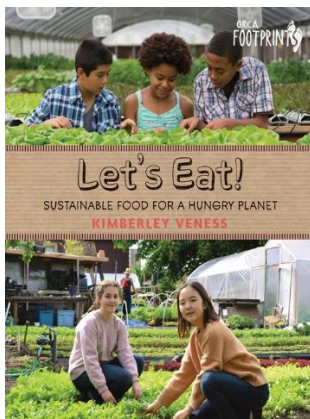
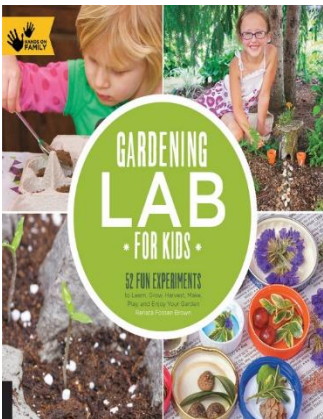


The science behind it:

As the organic matter decomposes, it breaks down and becomes compost. The compost has bacteria and chemical compounds that help plants grow and thrive, making it good for the environment.

Links to eResources:

Check out our [eBooks](#) on these topics:



[Gardening](#) | [Plants](#) | [Waste](#)

Check out the Series: *Curiosity Quest Goes Green – Backyard Composting* on [KanopyKids](#) to learn more about composting.

You can get a library card at hpl.ca/online-card.

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