

Untamed Science—Composting

Objective: Students will be able to describe how composting works and will create their own composting bin.

You will need:

- 8 gal or larger plastic tote (can be a new tote or an old broken tote) with lid
- Drill with 1/4" drill bit
- Yard and food scraps

Optional: Worms!

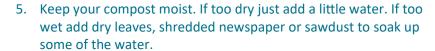


Directions:

- 1. Drill holes about 1-2" apart all over the sides, top, and bottom of your tote. This will provide the aeration needed for the composting process.
- 2. Place bin in a spot that is not in direct sun all day. If it gets too much sun, it will dry out your compost and slow the process.
- 3. Add your yard waste and kitchen scraps. Do NOT add any meat/ meat products, dairy products or animal waste to your compost.

Hint: The smaller the pieces of waste, the faster the process!





Option 1: Put a lid under the bin to catch the fertilizer "tea" to add to your garden.



Option 2: Add worms! You can either catch local earthworms or buy some red wigglers from a bait shop. You may want to mix by hand rather than a shovel so you don't hurt your worms. Happy composting!!!





