


## Objective

Students will understand how composting can improve conditions for growth of plants.

## Activity

1. Read or listen to the suggested books so students will have a better understanding of the composting life cycle.
2. Have students draw, discuss, and explain the needs of the composting life cycle that will allow it to thrive.
3.  Watch the YouTube video to illustrate what compost is and how it is formed.
4. Allow students to construct their own compost bin.

Suggested project:

Compost in a Jar, <https://bit.ly/2OY35ie>

5. Compare how different materials break down by observing the breakdown of food scraps such as a banana peel, paper plate, and a plastic fork. Allow students to choose items to test as well.
6. When the compost is finished (this may take several months), add the completed compost to the garden beds.

**Grade Level:** 1

**Subject Area:** Science

**Materials:**

*Compost! Growing Gardens From Your Garbage*, by Linda Glaser  
*Garbage Helps Our Garden Grow: A Compost Story*, by Linda Glaser  
 Online books from [www.getepic.com](http://www.getepic.com), such as *Composting at School*, by Josh Gregory, or *From Garbage to Compost*, by Lisa Owings  
 YouTube Video, *Make the Most of Compost*, SciShow Kids (~5 minutes), <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Q5s4n9r-JGU>  
 Empty glass or plastic jars

**Standards:**

1.L.1.3  
 1.L.1.2

**Collaborators:**

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## Your Notes & Ideas