

SMART AGRICULTURE



MAURITIUS INSTITUTE OF EDUCATION under the aegis of



MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND HUMAN RESOURCE



ACKNOWLEDGE

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COMPOSTING



Lesson 11:
Composting



Duration:
35 minutes



Grade:
7





Lesson Overview

This lesson introduces the concept of composting using simple language, visuals, and hands-on examples. It focuses on what composting is, why it's important, and what materials can be used.

Lesson Aim

The aim of this lesson is to help learners understand the process and importance of composting in a simple, engaging way.

Lesson Objectives

At the end of this lesson, learners will be able to:

1. Explain composting in their own words.
2. Name some organic materials that can be used to make compost.
3. State the importance of composting.



Composting

Lesson Procedures

Time	Activity
5 minutes	Starter Activity: Show learners compost items (e.g. banana peel, leaves, eggshell) and ask: 'What can we do with these items?'
5 minutes	Explanation: Teacher explains composting using a poster or drawing. Use simple words and gestures.
5 minutes	Video: Show the composting cartoon with teacher narration. Click on this link to view the video: https://youtu.be/iTndn-cUezAk?si=7FmpSP0C8-7WxiQQ
8 minutes	Explanation: Teacher explains composting using a poster or drawing. Use simple words and gestures.
7 minutes	Group Activity: Learners match pictures of compostable and non-compostable items using flashcards.
5 minutes	Teacher Demo: Teacher shows a mini compost jar or box and layers of materials: dry leaves, food waste, and soil.
5 minutes	Recap and Question Time: Ask learners simple questions: "Can I compost plastic?" "Is compost good for plants?"

Teacher's Responsibilities

- #1** Use visual aids and simple language
- #2** Bring compost items for demo
- #3** Guide group sorting activity
- #4** Ask simple yes/no or choice questions
- #5** Encourage participation with praise

Students' Responsibilities

- #1** Listen and look carefully
- #2** Answer questions orally or by pointing
- #3** Join in group sorting task
- #4** Try to answer or ask for help
- #5** Participate and stay engaged



Composting

Activity Assessment

Type: Oral and Visual

Instructions: Show each learner the following pictures.

Ask:

1. 'Can this go into compost?' (Point or say yes/no) 'Why do we make compost?' (Options: To feed plants / To play with / To throw away)
2. Let us reflect on it and discuss.



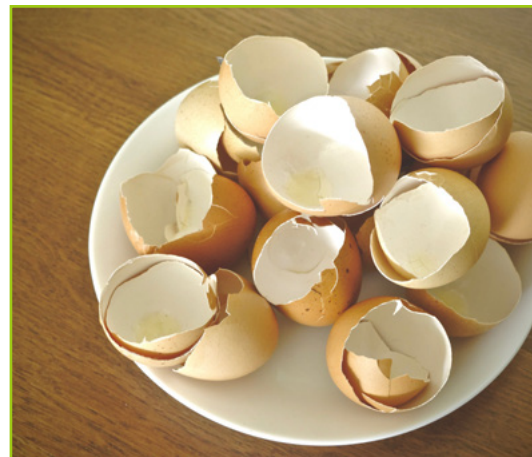
Vegetable waste



Glass bottles



Plastic bottle



Egg shell



Composting

Activity Assessment



Bones of chicken



Leaves

- **Criteria**
 - Learner identifies at least 2 correct compostable items.
 - Learner gives a basic reason for composting (e.g., 'help plants').

DIY ACTIVITY: COMPOST MAKING USING A COMPOST BIN

Lesson 12:
DIY Activity: Compost Making
Using a Compost Bin



Duration:
35 minutes



Grade:
7





Compost Making Using a Compost Bin

Lesson Overview

Students will learn to create compost by layering food scraps, soil and leaves in a bin. They will understand its benefits for plants and the environment through a simple, hands-on activity.

Lesson Aim

The aims of this lesson are to help learners understand what compost is, how it is made and to involve learners in a hands-on activity that supports environmental learning.

Lesson Objectives

At the end of this lesson, learners will be able to:

1. Identify materials that can be composted.
2. Create simple compost using a compost bin.
3. Observe changes during the composting process.
4. 4. Discuss the importance of reducing waste and caring for the environment.



Compost Making Using a Compost Bin

OVERVIEW OF COMPOST MAKING

Compost is a **natural fertilizer** made when **kitchen and garden waste** break down into rich, dark soil. Microorganisms and small insects help to change waste into compost. We can use compost in the garden to help plants grow better.

IMPORTANCE OF COMPOST



Reduces household waste



Improves soil fertility



Helps plants grow better

Reduces need for chemical fertilizers

HOW LONG DOES COMPOST TAKE?

Fast composting: 2 to 3 months

Slow composting: 6 months to 1 year

Small pieces compost faster

Warm weather helps





Compost Making Using a Compost Bin

MATERIALS NEEDED

- 1 small compost bin (or large bucket with holes)
- Fruit and vegetable scraps (banana peels, apple cores)
- Dry materials (leaves, shredded newspaper, cardboard)
- A small trowel or spoon
- Spray bottle with water
- Gloves
- Picture chart of compostable and non-compostable items
- Labels and marker

PROCEDURE (STEP-BY-STEP)

- **Step 1: Set Up the Compost Bin**

- Place the compost bin in a warm, shaded area.
- Label it with the group's or learner's name.

- **Step 2: Add the First Layer – Soil**

Put a layer of soil in the bottom to help start the compost.

- **Step 3: Add Fruit and Vegetable Scraps**

Add small pieces of kitchen waste like banana peels and apple skins.

- **Step 4: Add Dry Waste**

Add a layer of dry leaves or shredded paper. This helps balance compost.

- **Step 5: Mix and Spray Water**

- Gently mix the ingredients using a spoon or trowel.
- Spray a little water. The compost should be moist, not wet.

- **Step 6: Cover the Bin**

Cover with a lid to keep insects away and retain warmth.

- **Step 7: Check Weekly**

Mix gently and spray water once a week.



COMPOST MAKING



**SET UP THE
COMPOST BIN**



**ADD THE FIRST
LAYER: SOIL**



**ADD FRUIT AND
VEGETABLE SCRAPS**



ADD DRY WASTE



**MIX AND SPRAY
WATER**



CHECK WEEKLY

Image 1. Compost making

Disclaimer: This image is created by Sora, Generative AI.



Compost Making Using a Compost Bin

PRECAUTIONS TO TAKE FOR COMPOST MAKING

- Do not add meat, dairy, or oily food (they cause bad smells).
- Wear gloves when handling waste and soil.
- Wash hands after the activity.
- Make sure the bin is not too wet or too dry.

PRECAUTION TO TAKE

1. Do not add meat, dairy, or oily food (they cause bad smells)



2. Wear gloves when handling waste and soil



3. Wash hands after the activity



4. Make sure the bin is not too wet or too dry



Image 2. Precaution to take

Disclaimer: This image is created by Sora, Generative AI.



Compost Making Using a Compost Bin

Activity Assessment

Sensory Check-In (Weekly)

Learners will:

1. Check the smell (should be earthy, not bad).
2. Observe the color change (from fresh to brown/dark).
3. Notice the texture (from solid pieces to soft crumbly compost).

Complete the Compost Observation Sheet below:

Name: _____

Date: _____

Compost Observation sheet

Instructions: Look at the compost and use the emoki or picture that best shoes what you observe. Tick () the box that matched what you see, smell and feel.

1. Smell - How does the compost smell?



Fresh



Stinky

☐

2. Color - What color do you mostly see?



Green



Brown

☐



Compost Making Using a Compost Bin

Activity Assessment

3. Texture - How does it feel?



Hard



Soft



Note/Drawing: Draw what you see in the compost pile today!



Compost Making Using a Compost Bin

Activity Assessment

Oral questioning

1. "What did we put in the bin?"
2. "Why do we add dry leaves?"
3. "What does the compost smell like now?"



Image 3. Oral questioning

Disclaimer: This image is created by Sora, Generative AI.



Compost Making Using a Compost Bin

Activity Assessment

Compostables Sorting Exercise

Encircle the compostables



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