

Grade #: Kindergarten **Course Name** Composting
Unit #: Title of Unit (Advisory #)
Title of Lesson Sequence

Overview and Goal of the Lesson:

This lesson is an introduction to what composting is. The lesson introduces the importance of composting, items that can be composted and how we can compost.

Essential Question(s):

What items can be composted?
 Why is composting important?

NGSS Emphasized and Addressed in this Lesson Sequence:

Performance Expectations	Science and Engineering Practices	Disciplinary Core Ideas	Crosscutting Concepts
K-ESS3-3. Communicate solutions that will reduce the impact of humans on the land, water, air, and/or other living things in the local environment.	K-LS1-1. Use observation to describe patterns of what plants need to survive.	K-ESS3-3. Communicate solutions that will reduce the impact of humans on the land, water, air, and/or other living things in the local environment.	Events have causes that generate observable patterns. (K-PS3-1),(K-PS3-2)

Materials

Item	Quantity	Purpose
Different types of recyclables	3 items	Whole group sorting activity
Different types of compost items (egg carton, banana peel, apple core, egg shells, etc.)	3	Whole group sorting activity
Computer/projector		Powerpoint
Anchor chart paper and markers		Anchor chart

5E Lesson Sequence

Total Duration: 50 minutes				
5E Model Stage	Duration	Teacher and Student Actions		Notes
Engage	# 10 minutes	What Teacher Does	<p><i>Teacher says:</i> Today we are going to learn about composting. Before we get into what composting is I want you to think about things that we can recycle. Turn to your buddy and talk about some of the things that we recycle. (Teacher circulates the room while turn and talk. Share out various answers) We recycle because it helps our Earth to be a better place to live. Another way to help our Earth is by composting. We are going to learn all about that today!</p>	
		What Students Do	Turn and talk about things that we can recycle	
5E Model Stage	Duration	Teacher and Student Actions		Notes
Explore	# 10 minutes	What Teacher Does	<p>Have various items to sort into recycling and composting. Students won't know exactly what composting is yet but they will know what goes into the recycling group. After sorting: <i>Teacher says: These are the items that we sorted into the recycling group and these are items that we would compost. We are going to learn more about what things we can compost!</i></p>	
		What Students Do	Students will tell teacher how to sort items	
5E Model Stage	Duration	Teacher and Student Actions		Notes

Explain	# 15 minutes	What Teacher Does	Teacher goes over PowerPoint on composting	
		What Students Do	Students are listening, answering questions when asked, or turning and talking to buddies	
5E Model Stage	Duration	Teacher and Student Actions		Notes
Elaborate	# 10 minutes	What Teacher Does	<p><i>Teacher says: We learned so much about composting today! Let's talk about some things that we can and cannot compost.</i></p> <p>Teacher can create an anchor chart with students</p> <p><i>Teacher says: Why should we compost?</i></p>	
		What Students Do	Students will give answers to teacher.	
5E Model Stage	Duration	Teacher and Student Actions		Notes
Evaluate	# 5 minutes	What Teacher Does	<p>Teacher will review things that can and cannot be composted. Teacher can elaborate more on anchor chart.</p> <p>Optional teacher can show youtube video.</p>	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8PEIbErayZg&t=31s
		What Students Do	Students will ask and answer questions about composting.	



Let's Compost!

Vocabulary



compost

a mixture of rotting plants and vegetables to be used as a fertilizer



decompose

break down



waste

something that is no longer useful



fertilizer

a natural substance added to soil to make it grow more vegetables or crops

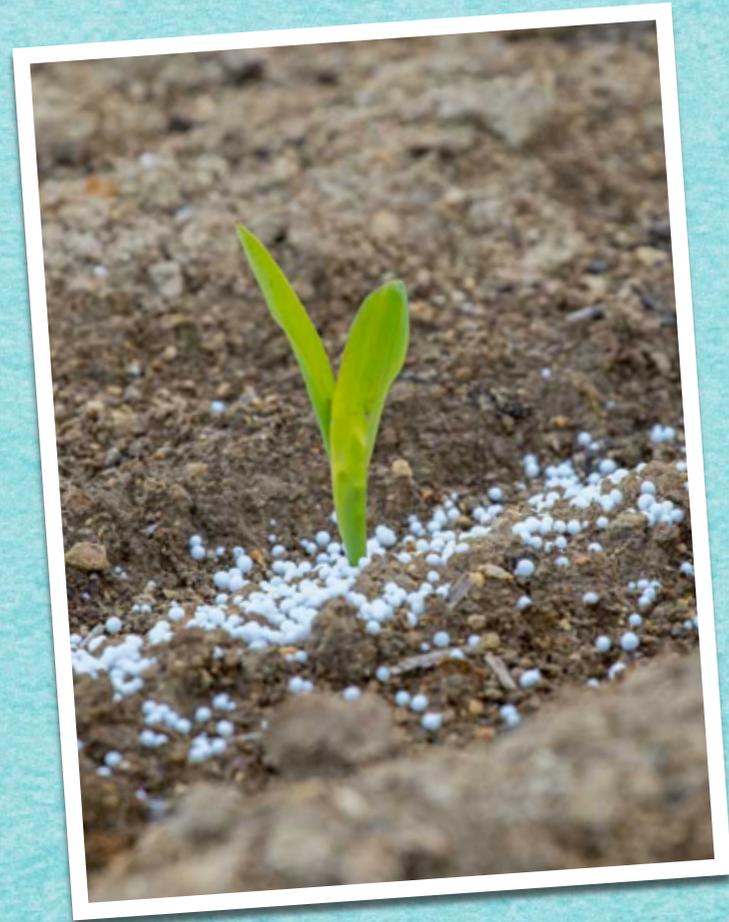
What is composting?

- ▶ Composting is when someone controls the breakdown of natural waste, organizes solid wastes
- ▶ Usually it is done in a bin where natural waste can mix together and decompose into fertilizer



Why should I compost?

- ▶ Composting helps keep our Earth clean
- ▶ It is an easy way to get free fertilizer for the garden!



What can be composted?

- ▶ There are many organic and natural materials that can be composted!
- ▶ Such as leaves, flowers, vegetable scraps, fruit scraps and peels, leftover table scraps, egg shells, coffee grounds



Turn and Talk: What types of things do you see in the picture that is being composted?

What can not be composted?

- ▶ There are also things that can not be composted!
- ▶ Such as meat scraps, wood scraps, metal, glass, and plastic



How do I start composting?

- ▶ There are many different ways to compost. A simple way is by using a bin.
- ▶ Then start adding materials to your compost



What do I do with Compost?

- ▶ Compost is an excellent natural fertilizer for your garden
- ▶ You will know when your compost is ready when they look kind of crumbly and smell like earth
- ▶ When your compost is ready you can use it in garden beds, scatter it like mulch around trees, plants and shrubs, or mix it into the soil that you use to pot plants
- ▶ This fertilizer will help your flowers and plants grow!

