

Composting Food Waste

Produced by [City of Plano Sustainability and Environmental Health Department](#)

STEAM Curriculum Lesson Extension:

Getting Dirty, Grade 3

Goal

Students will learn about various ways to use composting as a way to deal with food waste.

Overview

Students will be taken on an interactive journey that teaches them the basics of creating a compost bin. Three different types are explored: Outdoor Bio-Digester, Bokashi Bucket and Indoor Worm Bin. This lesson will not go in depth into the three types of composting. (You may include other sections to extend the lesson as you see fit.) Segments referred to include: Introduction, Getting Started, and Conclusion. Please note there is a Menu to the right that will aid you in navigating the lesson as well as a Glossary of terms. You can also find pdf materials in the upper righthand corner of the screen entitled "Resources."

Connections to EarthX STEAM Curriculum Lesson: *Getting Dirty*

In this lesson, students learn about soil composition and explore the impact of human development on the soil in their area. To further this study, the interactive content guides the students through the process of creating a compost bin and how it can develop rich soil.

Guiding Questions

- Can you create a slogan that describes the importance of worms in composting?
- Three different kinds of composting were discussed: Bio-digester, Bokashi Bucket and Indoor Worm Bin. Which one do you think you would like to try and why?
- Composting is one solution to the waste problem you can do at your home. Can you think of other things you can do to help reduce the amount of waste in our landfills?

Vocabulary

- Bio-Digester
- Bokashi Bucket
- Indoor Worm Bin
- Compost
- Landscape
- Landfill
- Soil amendment
- Galvanized steel
- Fermentation
- Inoculated bran
- Manure
- Castings
- Aeration
- Cocoon

Standards

Next Generation Science

- 3-LS1-1
- 4-LS1-1
- 5-LS2-1

TEKS Science Objectives

- 3.b.7A
- 3.b.9A
- 4.b.9
- 5.b.9A
- 5.b.9B