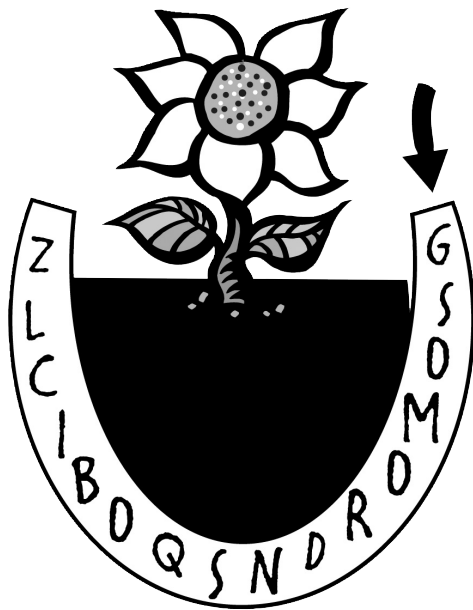


Crazy about Compost

Composting saves landfill space and turns garbage to goodness. Try it at home or at school!

What do you get from compost? To find out, start at the arrow and write down every other letter in the space below.



Loose soil makes it easier for plant roots to spread out.

Tip for Grown-ups:





Use compost instead of chemical fertilizers. It's earth-friendly, effective, and free. Spread compost over the ground at the base of plants to give them needed nutrients.

For an informative slideshow about composting for kids, see: <http://aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu/sustainable/slidesets/kidscompost/cover.html>

Try This!

Make your own compost.

You need:

- Garbage , OR , at least 3 feet wide and 3 feet deep
- Big plastic garbage bags to line the  or 
- Soil (with earthworms and bugs)
- Twigs or wood chips
- Compost ingredients
- A long stick or shovel to stir the compost

Before you start:

Ask an adult to help you poke 25–30 small holes in the lid, sides, and bottom of the can for air and water.

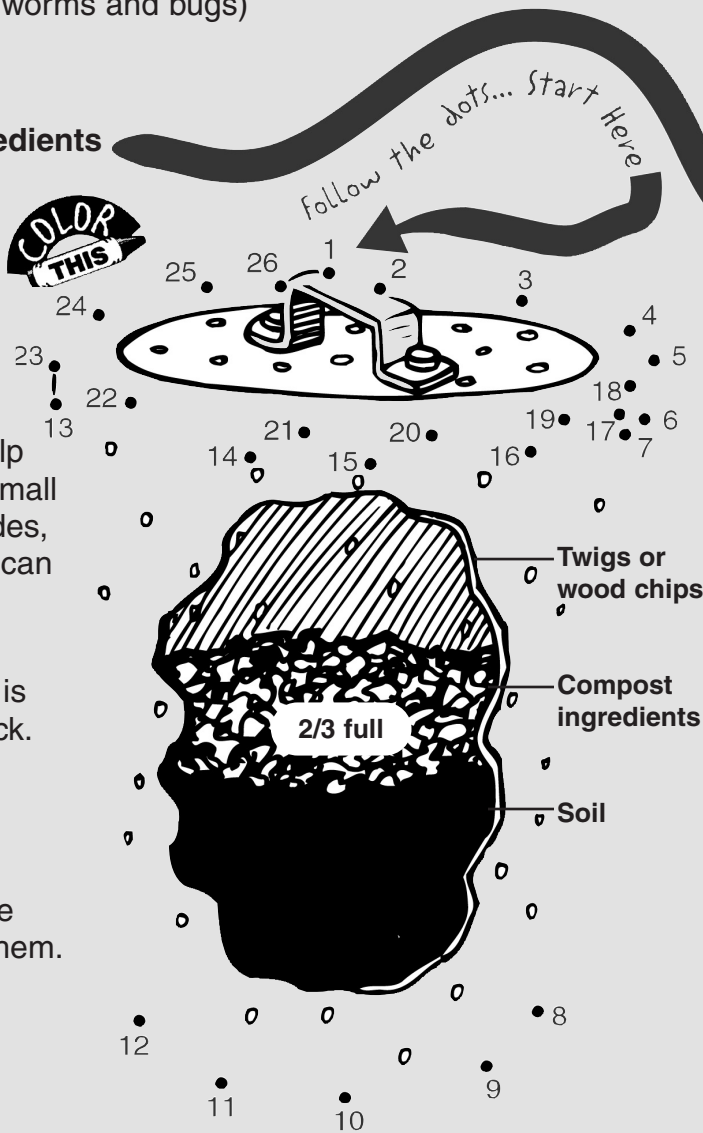
Step 1. Build up layers. Each layer is about 8 inches thick.

Step 2. Pour on enough water to moisten the pile.

Step 3. Make more layers and water them.

Step 4. Each time you add compost ingredients add a little soil.

COLOR THIS



Let nature's recyclers go to work!

Use the stick or shovel to mix the pile every two to four days. In one or two months, your compost will become dark brown and crumbly. It is ready to use on your lawn, houseplants, or garden!