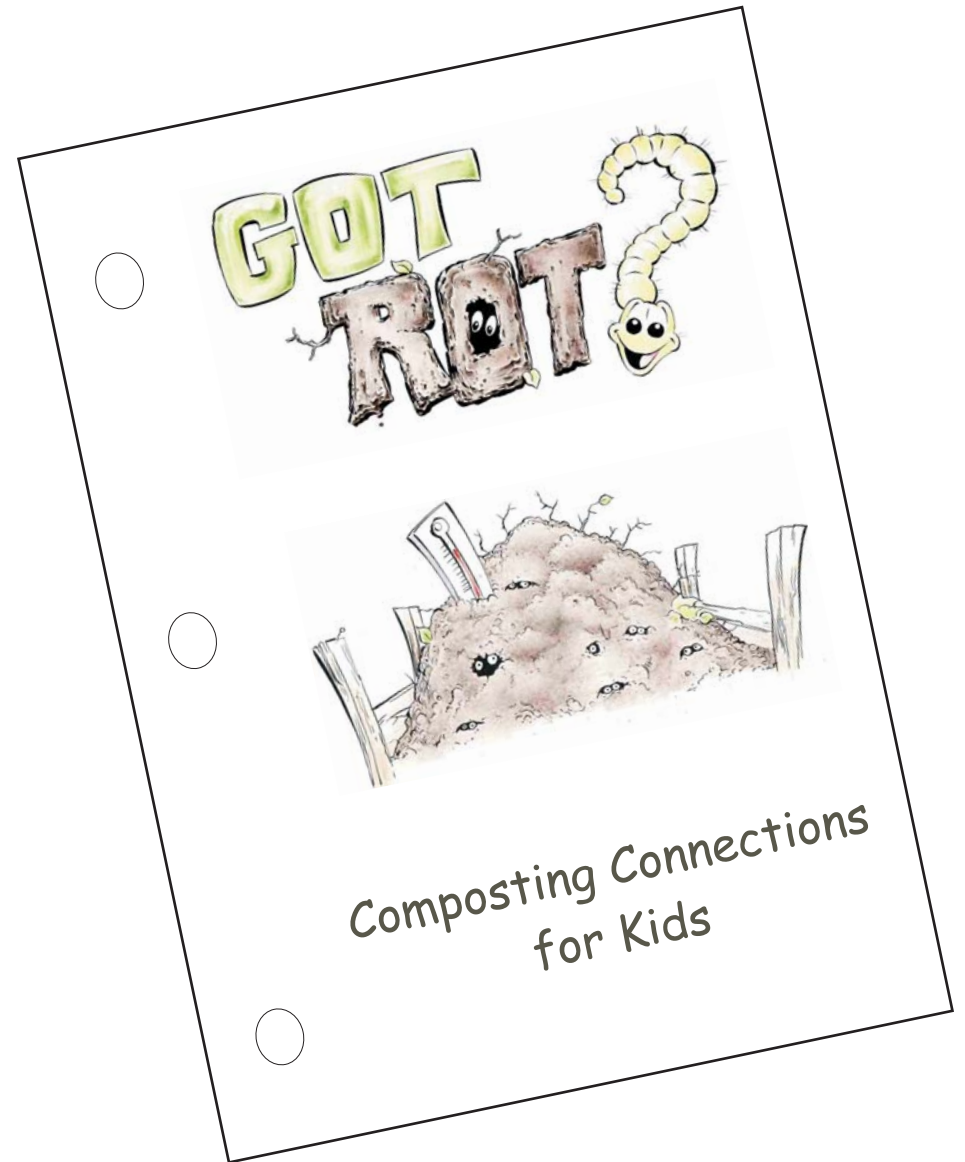
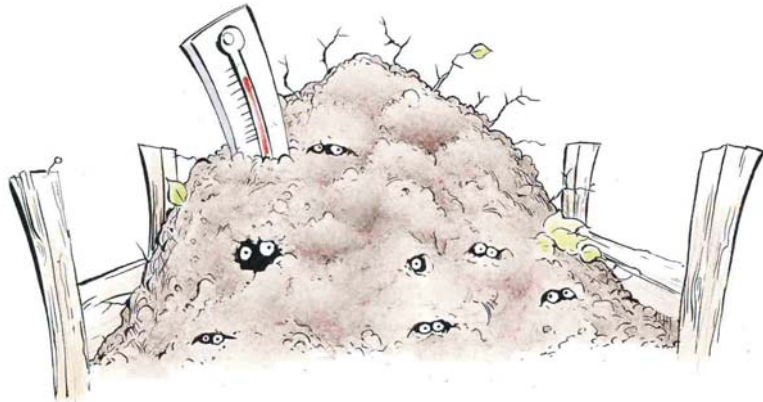


DIRECTIONS..

1. Copy pages on cardboard.
2. Cut pages on the solid center line.
3. Punch holes on the left side as shown.
4. Tie pages together with twine or ribbon.
5. **HAVE FUN!**



GOT
ROT?



Composting Connections for Kids

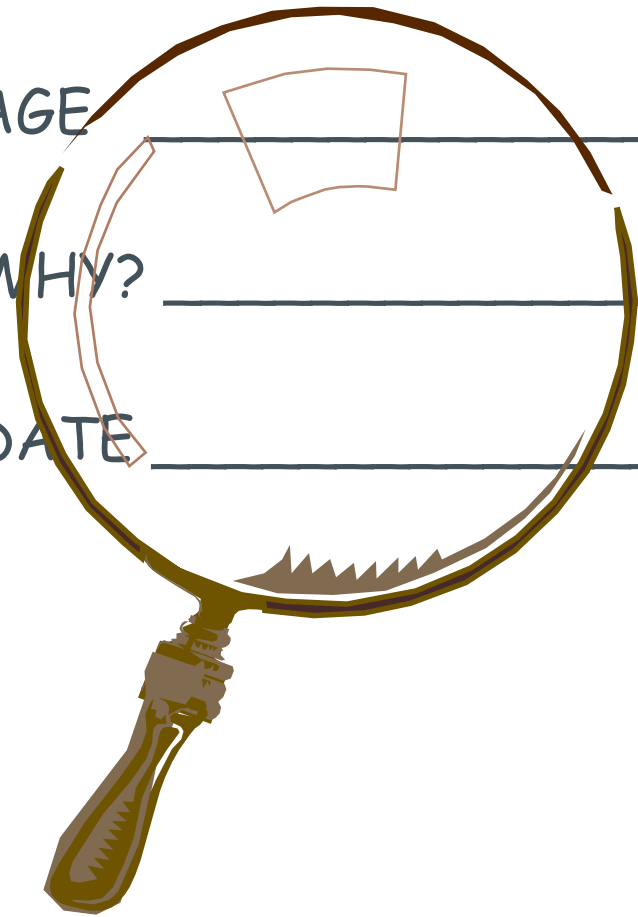
MY COMPOSTING BOOK

NAME _____

AGE _____

WHY? _____

DATE _____





Compost Recipe

Brown Material*

Green Material*

Water*

Bacteria*

Fungi*

Air*

Microorganisms*

*Vocabulary

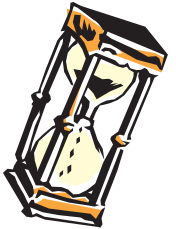


Facts...

The word "COMPOST" is taken from a Greek and a Latin word meaning "together."

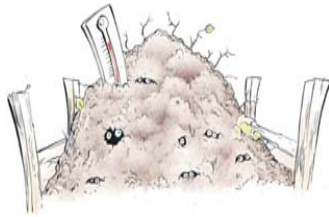


The process of composting is bringing the necessary ingredients together in the right amounts for the correct period of time.



In nature, composting is a continually occurring activity.

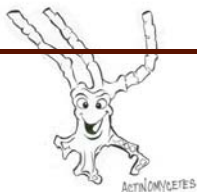


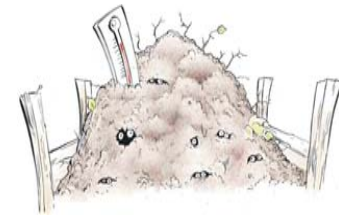


What do YOU think compost is?

What do "bugs" have to do with it?







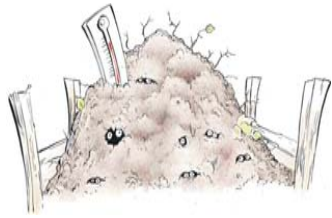
How does composting work?

1 Mix **BROWN** and **GREEN** biodegradable* uncontaminated raw materials together in the first bin.



2 Add **WATER** to make a damp mixture.

3 Cover and the composting begins!

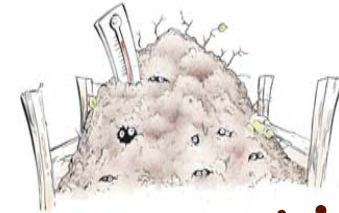
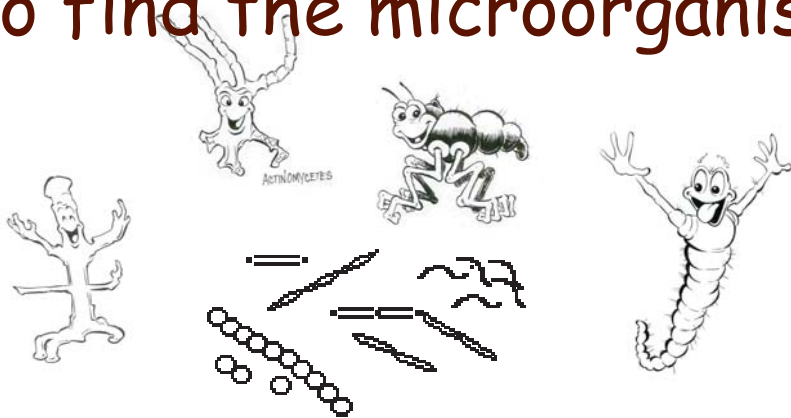


Composting takes work!

Check the mixture
(every week or
every 10 days)

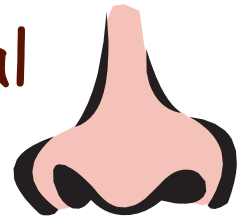


Use the magnifier
to find the microorganisms.

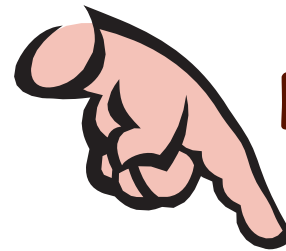


Composting takes work!

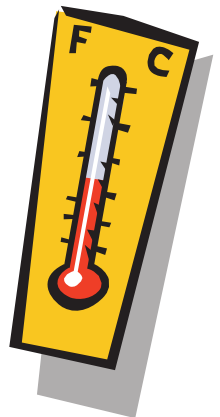
Is the material
composting*?

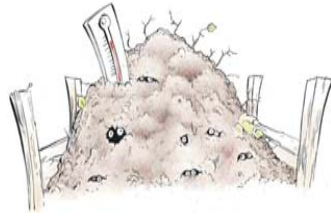


Does the mixture
feel damp?



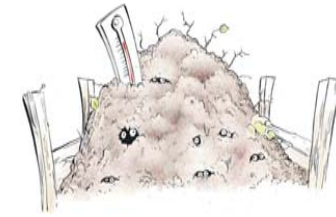
Is the mixture
getting warm?





Why COMPOST!

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.



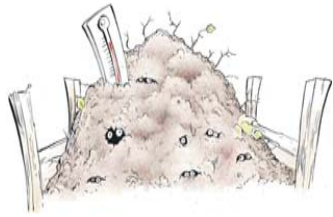
Just DO IT!

EQUIPMENT:

- 3 Bins*
- Rain collection barrel
- Pitchfork
- Gloves
- Thermometer
- Watering can
- Wheelbarrow

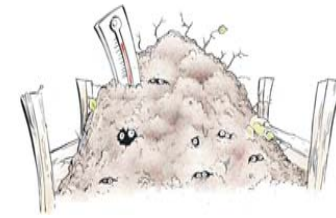
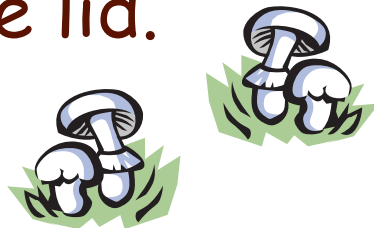


* There is more than one type of composter!



DOING IT!

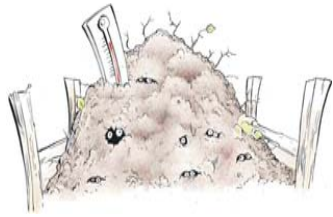
- Put new Brown and Green materials into Bin #1
- When it is ready, move the mixture to Bin #2
- Add collected rainwater from the barrel and close the lid.



DOING IT!

- Place new raw materials into Bin #1
- When conditions are right, move material that sifted through the screen to Bin #3
- We've Got Rot!** The Compost is ready!.





What's happening? SMELL



Sweet



earthy



sour



stinky



pukey

Bin #1 _____

Bin #2 _____

Bin #3 _____



What's happening? COLOR

BROWN

LT. BROWN

GREEN

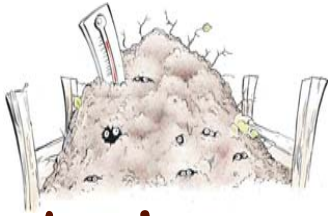
DK GREEN



Bin #1 _____

Bin #2 _____

Bin #3 _____



What's happening?

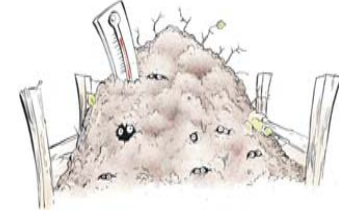
FEEL



Bin #1 _____

Bin #2 _____

Bin #3 _____

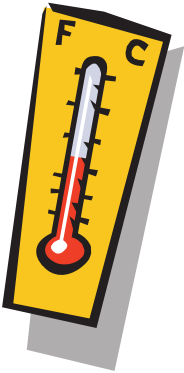


What's happening?

TEMPERATURE

COOL TEPID

HOT STEAMING



Bin #1 _____

Bin #2 _____

Bin #3 _____



VOCABULARY

Bacteria -- Living organisms too small to be seen by the naked eye

Biodegradable -- Capable of being absorbed by the organic environment

Biological -- Plant and animal life

Brown compost materials -- Dried plant life

Chlorophyll -- The green coloring matter of plants

Composting -- A mixture of ingredients that change with time

Friable -- Easily crumbled



VOCABULARY

Fungi - Plants without chlorophyll

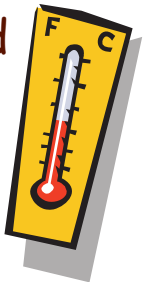
Green compost materials -- Fresh plant cuttings

Microorganisms -- Living organisms too small to be seen by the naked eye

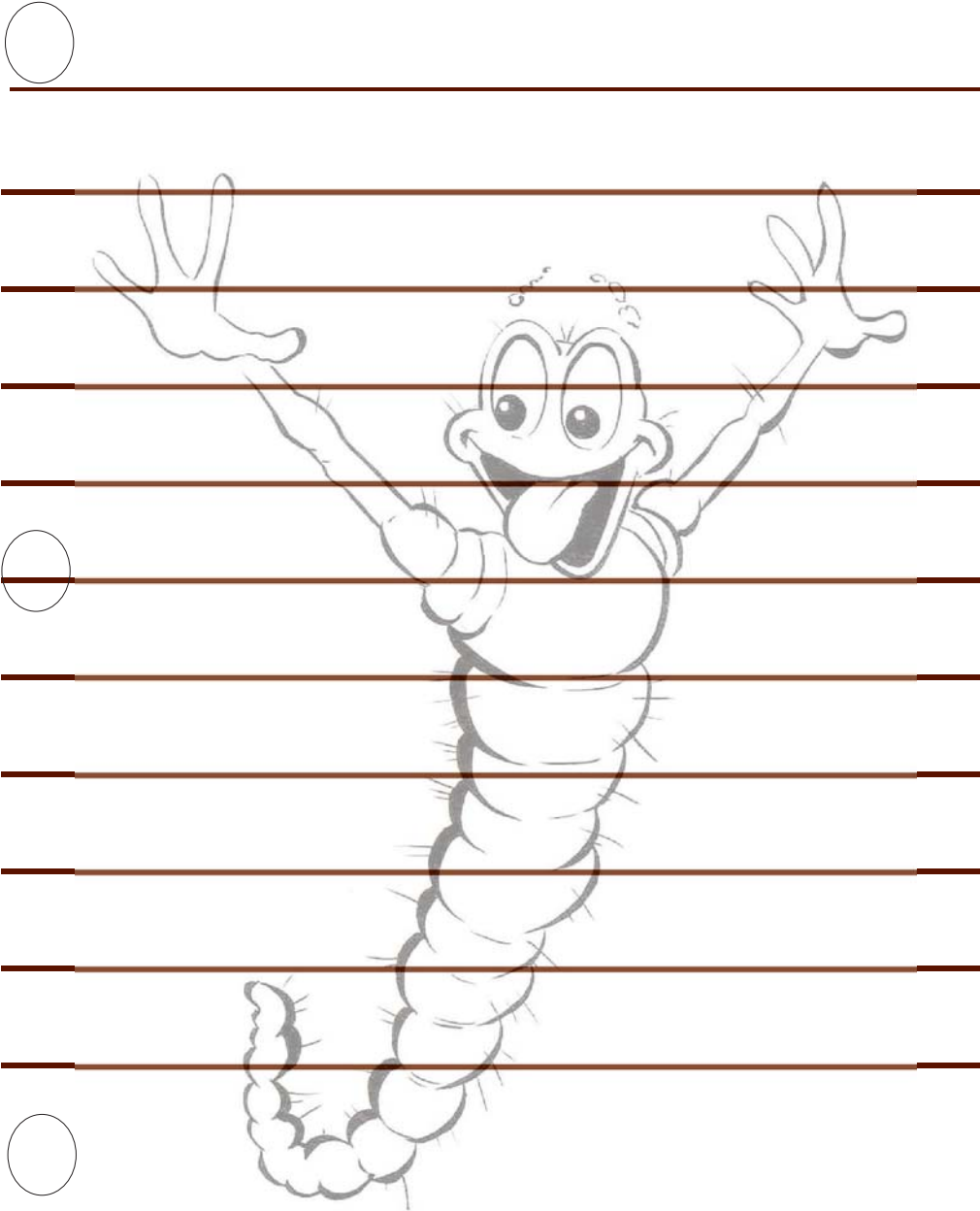
Organism -- A living plant or animal

Raw materials -- Items in their natural state

Tepid - Between warm and cold



MY COMPOSTING NOTES....



Written by
Carol Fraser

Layout and composition
Barbara Payne

Microorganisms drawn
by Daniel Shaw



www.SaveWaterTexas.com