

What is Composting?



Lesson Overview:

In this lesson, students will be introduced to the concept and importance of **composting**.

Learning Outcomes:

Students will:

- gain a basic understanding of composting
- identify compostable and non compostable items

Materials:

- Composting with Peppa Pig: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8PEIbErayZg>
- Whiteboard and markers
- Paper and markers/pencil crayons

Instructions

Learning Plan:

1. Composting with Peppa Pig:
 - Begin the lesson by asking students if they know what composting is. After a bit of discussion, show the Youtube video: Composting with Peppa Pig (link above)
 - After the video, ask students the following prompts to reflect and discuss the video:
 - i. What kind of food scraps did you notice were put into the compost bin?
 - ii. What if there is leftover _____ [insert food item] on your plate after dinner – can we dump it into the compost bin?
2. Ask students to draw pictures, write words or sentences (depending on classroom academic abilities) about the following prompts:
 - What type of items get thrown away at home? Students may need some adult suggestions.

After students have shown some evidence of understanding (drawings, words, sentences), explain that some of the trash they have listed is biodegradable waste such as paper, cardboard, food scraps, etc. Explain that some items that get thrown away are not biodegradable such as plastic bottles, pop cans, etc.

3. The instructor will then create a list on the whiteboard of items that are biodegradable, and therefore can be used in composting. Relay back to the Peppa Pig video where needed.

Activity Options:

You may choose to extend this activity by creating your own classroom compost! Please see the Classroom Compost lesson plan for further information.