



✂ WONDERVILLE ACTIVITY

THE GREAT COMPOST EXPERIMENT

Composting is nature's way of recycling. Anything that was once living is called *organic*. Organic wastes decompose naturally, resulting in compost, which is used by gardeners and farmers to improve the condition of soil.

In this activity you will learn what materials are organic (and can be turned into compost) and observe how different materials decay over time.

What You Need

- 1 piece of banana peel (about 2.5 cm square)
- 1 piece of newspaper (about 2.5 cm square)
- 1 plant leaf
- 1 piece (2.5 cm square) of a potato chip bag
- 4 small, clear containers with lids
- moist garden soil
- water

What To Do

1. Place each item in its own container.
2. Cover the items with the garden soil. Cover each container with its lid.
3. Water the soil in the containers every day. You want to keep the soil damp.
4. Record your observations in the chart below.



WEEK ONE	COLOUR	TEXTURE	DESCRIPTION/NOTES
BANANA PEEL			
NEWSPAPER			
LEAF			
CHIP BAG			
WEEK TWO	COLOUR	TEXTURE	DESCRIPTION/NOTES
BANANA PEEL			
NEWSPAPER			
LEAF			
CHIP BAG			

Based on your experiment and the observations you recorded, what items are organic?

