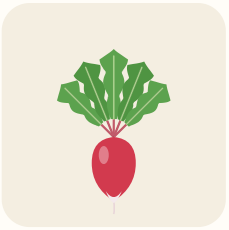
AGES 8–11 · TEACHER PAGE

From scraps to compost

Pupils feed the MAVA COMPOST with canteen scraps and follow their transformation into compost.



45 min, then 10 min a week for 12 weeks | MAVA : COMPOST

KEY QUESTION **What happens to our food scraps?**

OBJECTIVES

1. Sort compostable waste.
2. Observe decomposition and decomposers.
3. Explain the cycle of matter: plant, waste, compost, plant.

MATERIALS

- The MAVA COMPOST and its compost stirrer
- A bucket of canteen scraps, gloves
- Scales, magnifiers, a thermometer (optional)
- The pupil sheet

CURRICULUM LINKS

NGSS	**5-LS2-1**: Develop a model to describe the movement of matter among plants, animals, decomposers, and the environment.
NATIONAL CURRICULUM	**Year 2 · Living things and their habitats**: simple food chains, extended to decomposers.
IB PYP · ECO-SCHOOLS	**Sharing the planet** · 'waste' theme

LESSON STEPS

1 **Sort** 15 min	Wearing gloves, pupils sort the canteen scraps: compost or bin? (pupil sheet)
2 **Feed** 10 min	Weigh the compostable scraps, put them in the central column, close the tajine lid. Record the mass.
3 **Observe** 10 min / wk	Smell, colour, temperature, minibeasts: worms, woodlice, moulds. Collect the liquid from the tap after watering.
4 **Explain** 20 min	Decomposers (bacteria, fungi, worms) turn dead matter into minerals that plants reuse: nothing is lost. Complete the cycle.

ASSESS

The pupil completes the cycle and names at least two decomposers.

VOCABULARY

waste, compost, decomposer, matter, cycle, minerals

EXTENSION

Work out how much waste the class kept out of the bin in one term.

⚠ **Safety :** Gloves for handling scraps, then wash hands. No meat, fish or dairy.

AGES 8–11 · PUPIL SHEET

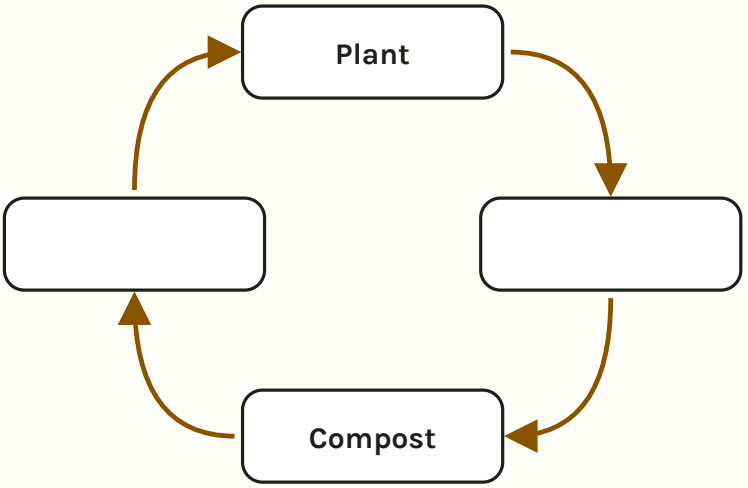
From scraps to compost

NAME _____ CLASS _____ DATE _____

1 Sort: tick the right column.

Item	Compost	Bin
Carrot peel	☐	☐
Eggshell	☐	☐
Coffee grounds	☐	☐
Banana skin	☐	☐
Chicken bone	☐	☐
Yoghurt pot	☐	☐
Dead leaves	☐	☐
Piece of cheese	☐	☐
Plastic bag	☐	☐
Apple core	☐	☐

2 Complete the cycle with: scraps, minerals.



3 Each week, observe the compost.

Week	Scraps (g)	Smell	°C	Minibeasts
1				
2				
3				
4				
5				
6				

4 Which decomposers did you see? What do they do?

_____

_____