



## Recycling Lesson Plan- Waste Not, Want Not

**Driving question-** How does a compost pile reduce waste?

**Lesson-** Students may use the internet, visit libraries and greenhouses, and interview farmers, neighbors, or family members with gardening experiences to gain information about composting. As part of this lesson, students will:

- Compost materials to observe and record what happens in the process;
- Experiment to determine what types of materials biodegrade;
- Research why the compost needs air and water;
- Investigate how to control compost odors;
- Consider why they should bother with composting; and
- Plan what might be done with the compost from their experiments.

Following the research, student teams should consider how composting might be done at home or on a larger scale for a school or community and what might be done with the compost from large scale composting operations. They should prepare to present a composting plan recommendation to the principal, school board, or city council. Teachers may contact these individuals and arrange for them to attend the students' presentations.

**Informational Text-** As part of their presentations, students should be prepared with an, "If you want to learn more..." recommended reading for the principals or members of the school board or city council, which includes the book or article and the name of the newspaper or magazine, author, a quick summary, and the ISBN.

