

Lesson Time:
20 minutes
Mini-lesson

Vocabulary:

Organic
matter

“Greens”

“Browns”

“Nature’s
Helpers”

Composting



Greens: Greens are organic matter containing large amounts of nitrogen.
They are generally items that are freshly cut.
They are also most of the food scraps that you would throw away from your kitchen (fruits and vegetables).

Objectives

Students will compare and contrast: “browns” and “greens.”

Students will discover the importance of air, water, organic matter and “nature’s helpers” in composting.

Standards

E.12.C.4 Students know processes of obtaining, using, and recycling of renewable and nonrenewable sources. E/S

E.12.C.5 Students know soil, derived from weathered rocks and decomposed organic material, is found in layers. E/S

N.12.B Students understand the impacts of science and technology in terms of cost and benefits to society.

Materials Needed

30	Handouts or an overhead
6	Dry erase markers
1	Whiteboard

Anticipatory Set

Write the lesson objectives and/or standards on the whiteboard.
Discuss with the students what the objectives and/or standards of the lessons are.

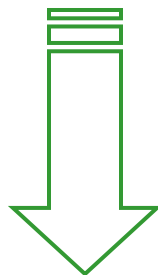
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Objective: You will discover the importance of air, water, organic matter and, “nature’s helpers” in composting.

Distribute handouts or prepare overhead.

Introduction:

“Last time we looked at a pie graph that showed how MSW is broken down. We also said that paper, yard waste, and food can be composted. Let us look a little more closely at some factors that affect composting.”



Modeling / Guided Practice

1. Give out handout or prepare overhead questions.
2. Discuss the importance of air in composting.
3. Discuss the importance of water in composting.
4. Discuss the importance of organic material in composting.
5. Define “browns” and “greens.”
6. Define “nature’s helpers.”
7. Discuss the role “nature’s helpers” play in composting.

Closure:

1. Stress the importance of composting.
2. Review the formula for completing the compost column.
3. Summarize the lesson.
4. Check for understanding.

Independent Practice

1. Not applicable.