New York Restoration Project's ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION PROGRAM

STEPS TO GOOD COMPOST

Name: ____________________ Date: _______________ Grade: ____________________

Rotate compost pile weekly

Monitor temperature and add water as needed to keep pile moist.

Sort and identify items that can be composted.

banana peel  apple core
cola bottle  leaves
grass      newspaper

Draw a circle around the greens, a square around the browns and a X on things that don't belong.

Finished product

Apply to garden bed supplying the fruits and vegetables with nutrients.

Layer compost pile

Lay twigs or straw first to help aid drainage and helps aerate the pile.

Compost sifting

The smaller, the better.

Shred and chop

CHOP YOUR MATERIALS
MIX 'EM UP GOOD!
LOOK! THEY'RE BUILDING A HOME FOR US!
LOOK! NICER AND MOIST IN THERE!

WHEN YOU MAKE A COMPOST PILE, YOU BUILD A HOME FOR THE FBI...
FUNGI, BACTERIA, AND INSECTS.
Greens and browns get broken down by decomposers such as insects and bacteria. Common decomposers are:

Find 3 decomposers
(Bonus: draw a picture of each!)

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Heat is another important part of compost, breaking down all that natural material even more. Can you see the steam rising from the compost pile? Draw what it looks like: