



## Background information

Composting is a simple step-by-step process. A mixture of green and brown wastes are collected and put in a compost bin. The process of microbial decay occurs and the resulting product is compost. There are a wide range of websites which provide information on composting and that can be easily accessed by children. This activity looks at several websites and encourages information interpretation through Internet use. There is also the opportunity to use the session as an introduction to e-mail and the answers can be e-mailed to the address below.

## ICT

### QCA links

Unit 6D Using the internet to search large databases and to interpret information.

Learning Objectives:

- To talk about what information is needed and how to find it.
- To work together to interpret information.

Learning Outcome:

- Children will use the internet to answer composting questions and review the quality of the information

## Teaching Activity

1. Use the pupil worksheet as a basis for an Internet session.
2. Encourage the children to work in small groups and look at the following websites.

[www.littlerotters.org.uk/kidzone](http://www.littlerotters.org.uk/kidzone)

[www.urbanext.uiuc.edu/worms](http://www.urbanext.uiuc.edu/worms)

[www.recyclenow.com/home\\_composting/composting](http://www.recyclenow.com/home_composting/composting)

3. In groups the children work through the worksheet answering the questions.
4. The answers to the activity can be e-mailed to [littlerotters.org.uk](mailto:littleotters.org.uk)
5. A response will then be sent back.

## Extension work

Children can do a comparison study of the websites and outline the advantages and disadvantages of each site. There is an Ask Wendell section in the Kids Zone on the Little Rotters website and any feedback from the sessions on this site can be sent here. This could be used as a letter writing session.



## Pupil Worksheet

1. Log in to your school computer and open up the Internet.

Use these three websites to find the answers to the following questions

- [www.littlerotters.org.uk/kidzone](http://www.littlerotters.org.uk/kidzone)
- [www.urbanext.uiuc.edu/worms](http://www.urbanext.uiuc.edu/worms)
- [www.recyclenow.com/home\\_composting/composting](http://www.recyclenow.com/home_composting/composting)

1. Name three things you might put in the compost bin.
  - 1.
  - 2.
  - 3.
2. What do you call the two types of material you need to mix together to make good compost?
  - 1.
  - 2.
3. Name two brown materials.
  - 1.
  - 2.
4. Name three creatures that will eat the waste in the compost bin.
  - 1.
  - 2.
  - 3.
5. Which part of the waste do slugs eat?
6. How many hearts does a worm have?
7. How do worms breathe?