

Where to put the compost bin



Background Information

The positioning of the compost bin will need some consideration especially in school grounds. For full details see 'Positioning the Compost Bin' in Section One.

This is a good activity to do with the Little Rotters as it will give them an opportunity to contribute in the very early stages of composting in school.

See if the premises officer can be present during this activity.

Geography

QCA links – Year 4

Unit 8 Improving the environment

Section 4 - What is this place like and why?

Children should learn 'to answer the enquiry question' 'Where to put our compost bin?'

Learning objectives. Children should learn -

- to investigate places.
- to collect and record evidence to answer questions.

Learning outcomes. Children -

- become aware of the school grounds and the variety of areas within them.
- make reasoned decisions.

Equipment

- Large map of school grounds and about 10 smaller ones.
- Post it notes

Teaching activity

1. Look at the school grounds map together. Ask the pupils to indicate their own classroom on the map. Talk about what is where on the map so they can orientate themselves within it.
2. Divide the children into small groups so that each group can investigate where in the school grounds the compost bin should be put. They can record their proposed sites on the map provided. They will have to consider the following criteria
 - Accessible all year round.
 - Not too close to the school or the main playing areas.
 - Sitting on soil not concrete.
 - In as safe a place as possible.
3. Ask each group to present their findings.
4. Decide where the most suitable place for a compost bin is.



Where to put the compost bin

Name _____

In your group investigate possible places to put the compost bin. Here are a few points to help you-

- The Compost bin needs to be easily accessible all year round.
- Think about your favourite places for playing, you don't want the compost bin to get in anyone's way.
- The compost bin is best sitting on soil not concrete so worms can easily get in



1. Look at the school map. Can you find your classroom?
2. Point out you favourite place in the school grounds.
3. Where are suitable places to put the compost bin?
4. Write down 3 ideas for suitable place to put the compost bin and why. Mark these places on your map.

1. Place _____
Why? _____

2. Place _____
Why? _____

3. Place _____
Why? _____