

Have you helped the environment today?

May is **Compost Awareness Month!** Do you know what *compost* is? Compost is made up of food scraps, leaves, wood chips, grass, and even paper that break down and create rich soil that plants love! You can make compost in your backyard by building a bin and putting things like raw food scraps (things carrot peels and apple cores) and leaves in it. If you leave the pile for long enough, with the help of water and high heat, soil is made!

It's like magic, but way cooler because you know how to do it yourself. It's kind of like what you're doing with your worm bin, except things are breaking down by more than just worms—there are a lot more bugs in a compost bin! Have a look at the drawing to see what a compost bin is made up of!



Important Dates

May – International Compost Awareness Month

Our Compost Demonstration Garden opens!

REAPS' Annual Plant Sale May 26th

12 Canada Health Day

16 Endangered Species Day

22 International Day for Biological Diversity

27 Rachel Carson Day

International Migratory Bird Day (second Saturday)

Drinking Water Week

Composting Awareness Week

National Forest Week

National Sun Awareness Week (third week)

COOL COMPOST CRAFT!!!

Here's a really interesting thing you can do at home to see how compost is made, as compared to plastic or whatever you choose to compare it to.



Get a container with 1-3 parts, fill with your objects to break down and soil, and watch everything break down (or not)!

Idea from <http://www.mamabzz.com/2011/04/earth-day-project-kids-compost-container-review-giveaway.html>