

WORMFARM TROUBLESHOOT



Excessive moisture and no worms

You're adding too much water and/or not draining the collecting tray often enough

The worm farm is too wet and anaerobic decomposition is taking place

Excessive mould and unpleasant smell

The worm farm is outside and exposed to the rain

Stop adding excess water

Leave the tap open with a bucket underneath to collect the worm juice

Acidic food like citrus fruits or tomatoes are being added

Flies and maggots have taken over

Make sure food is added regularly. Stand legs of the worm farm in buckets of water to stop ants climbing up

Buy a cheap pumpkin, cut it in half and leave it in the worm farm before you go away

Remove if possible and re-educate students and staff

The worm farm is too dry

Ants in the worm farm

The worm farm is dry and worms have died as no new food or moisture has been added over the period

There are foods like meat and breads being thrown in

The worm farm has stopped over the holidays

Yes

Most vegetable and fruit scraps
Egg Shells
Tea bags
Seeds



No

Citrus fruits
Tomatoes
Capsicums and chillies
Dairy
Meat
Bread
Greasy food



COMPOSTING GUIDE

Suitable for home composting Green Materials

All fruits and vegetable scraps, citrus included

Autumn leaves

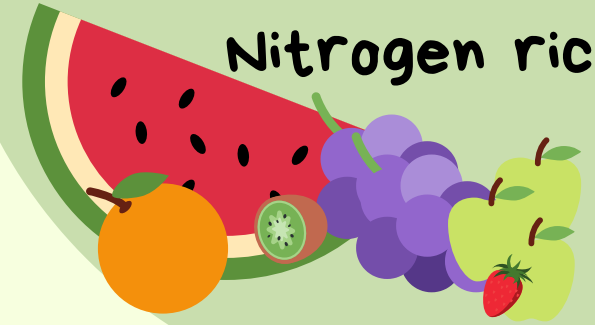
Grass

Garden Clippings

Bamboo skewers and COMPOSTABLE utensils (they must be compostable, not just degradable or biodegradable)

Wet and juicy, including fruit and veggie scraps

Nitrogen rich



Suitable materials can be broken into two groups, GREEN and BROWN

Ideal ratio

1:3 Green: Brown

(1:2 will still work)

Brown Materials

Dry and crunchy, including grass clippings and autumn leaves

Carbon rich



Unsuitable for home composting

Meat

Dairy

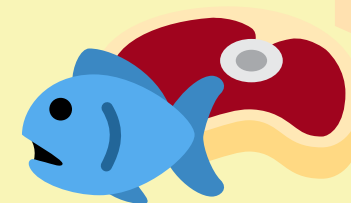
Greasy foods

Breads

Sweets, cakes

Large sticks and wood

Weeds with seed heads



How composting works

Composting is the breakdown of organic matter

Firstly, chemical breakdown (enzymes). This causes the pile to heat up

Secondly, bacteria, fungi (and actinomycetes, but don't worry too much about these guys!) are active. They also contribute to the heating up of the pile.

Larger organisms, like worms, slaters and millipedes become active as the heap cools.



COMPOST TROUBLESHOOT

