

# HOW YOU “BIN”?

Compost bin  
monitoring with CRA  
class members!

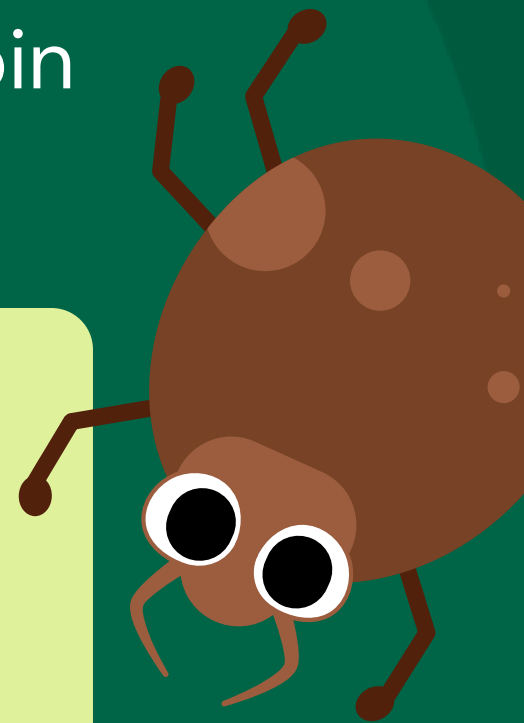


# THE LITTLE BIN THAT COULD

Our "soil saver" back yard garden bin



- Placed on top of soil/mulch
- Locking lid to prevent critters/pests
- Open design made it easy to turn/add greens and browns to mix



# EARLY STAGES AND PROGRESS



# GREENS & BROWNS



## Ratios

As we initially built the pile we tried to consider the goal ratio of 3:1 browns to greens. We utilized mulch provided by staff at the Environmental Services Bureaus garden and harvested weeds around the garden and parking lot when we were short food scraps.

## Moisture

After turning our compost weekly, we covered the pile with mulch, considering the layering method introduced in class. We observed that, depending on the weather, the moisture content of the pile varied, and was leaning toward dry.

## Observing Decomposition

We noticed our food scraps changing color and shrinking in size. Our pile on the second to last class was mostly brown, as picture in the previous slide, with greens scraps being mostly incorporated into brown mulch. Macroorganisms were populous!

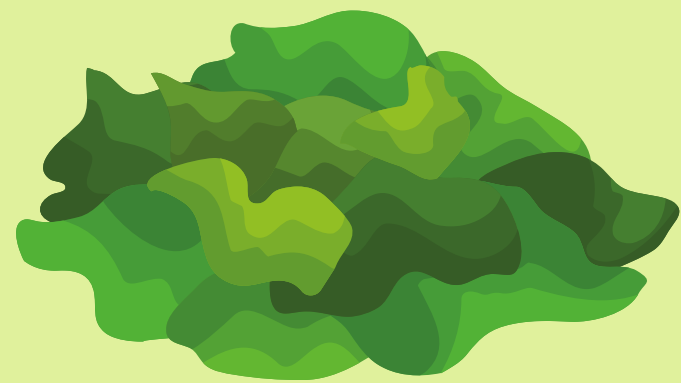




# TAKE A LOOK AT MY WORM- FRIEND

We observed macroorganism population increase significantly as the weeks progressed!

# TROUBLESHOOTING & TRIALS



Making sure we had a good mix of greens and browns



Keeping moisture levels consistent



Hidden Contaminants in organics, ie tea bags



## Conclusions:

It was very informative to learn about all the various methods and time frames for outdoor/backyard composting. Considering the length that it takes to produce, we felt that this monitoring session gave us an accurate example of decomposition within the context we were working with.



# Closing Statements, Comments, or Questions!

