

# Decomposition Observation LAB

## Land Pollution Activity

### WHAT ARE WE EXPLORING?

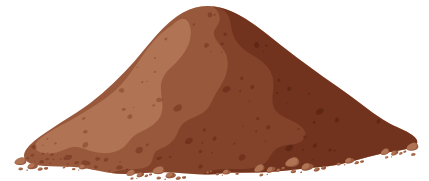
In this activity, you will observe how different materials break down over time.

### You will look for:

Changes in appearance  
Breakdown of materials  
What stays the same

### SUPPLIES

Small container or cup  
Soil  
Food scrap (fruit peel or bread)  
Paper  
Plastic piece



### SET UP

Add soil to your container.  
Place each item into the soil.  
Lightly cover with soil.  
Observe over time (days or weeks).

### MAKE A PREDICTION

Which item will break down the fastest?

- Food
- Paper
- Plastic
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

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## Land Pollution Activity

### OBSERVE AND RECORD

Look closely at jar over time. Record what you see.

TIME	FOOD	PAPER	PLASTIC
Start			
Day 3			
Day 7			
Day 14			

### WHAT CHANGED?

Circle or write what you notice about the jar:

- Food broke down
- Paper changed slowly
- Plastic stayed the same
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

### THINK ABOUT IT

Which material changed the most?

Which material stayed the same? Why?

### THE SCIENCE BEHIND IT

Land pollution happens when waste does not break down.

Biodegradable materials (like food) break down naturally.

Non-biodegradable materials (like plastic) stay for a long time.

This is why waste can build up in landfills.

### EXTEND IT

Try adding water or sunlight and observe if anything changes faster!