

The Breakdown on Decomposition

Rubric

A rubric is a scoring tool that helps you understand how your work will be evaluated. This rubric is provided to show you the expectations for your performance and engagement during the lesson based on specific tasks.

Name _____ Date _____

Task	4	3	2	1
Compost Buddies Video Notes (Individual)	Notes are detailed, complete, and neat. Responses to focus questions are thorough and correct.	Notes are mostly detailed, complete, and neat. Responses to focus questions are correct, though may lack some detail.	Notes lack detail or are difficult to read. Some responses to focus questions are incorrect.	Notes are incomplete.
Finding the Main Idea Worksheet (Individual)	Responses are thorough and accurate. Student finds the main idea(s) and supporting details of the text; summary contains only essential details.	Responses are mostly thorough and accurate. Student finds the main idea(s) and supporting details of the text; summary contains essential details.	Responses are short or contain some errors. Student can locate some details in the text, but does not accurately infer all main ideas ; summary is incomplete, or contains unnecessary details.	Responses are superficial and incomplete.
Service Project (Individual or group)	Student uses a detail from the article to inspire an engaging and interesting composting service project. Project is well planned and has the potential to help people learn about composting.	Student uses a detail from the article to inspire a composting service project. Project is planned and has the potential to help people learn about composting.	Though the idea is interesting, the project is not thoroughly planned and/or executed.	Student does not plan or execute a composting service project.

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Compost Buddies — Notes During the Video

Videos and other multimedia can be an effective way to learn information on a topic. Before the video begins, read the entire notes page thoroughly. As a result, you'll know what information you should be watching and listening for. Then, pay close attention to the information presented in the video, and take notes on what you see and hear. These notes will be an important resource for you later in the lesson. There's a place at the bottom for questions you have during the video.

Name _____ Date _____

During the Video: Use the boxes below to write down important facts relevant to the topic.

1. Example: Fact: Worms help break down materials, and their tunnels provide space for air to enter.	2.	3.
4.	5.	6.
7.	8.	9.

Questions?

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Compost Buddies — After the Video

Name _____ Date _____

Video Topic _____

What was the main idea or central message of the video?

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Using your list of facts and details from the previous page, choose the 3 most important facts that you believe best support the main idea.

1).....

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2).....

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3).....

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Summarize the information presented in the video. If you need help, paraphrase your main idea and supporting details outline above.

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Finding the Main Idea

Whether it’s to inform, explain, argue, or entertain, authors always write text for a reason. As readers of expository text (real text that explains or informs), it is our job to determine the main idea or ideas of the text. To do so, we must first consider the author’s purpose in writing the text.

Name _____ Date _____

Task Description:

- 1. Read the article “Composting at Home” from the United States Environmental Protection Agency. <http://www2.epa.gov/recycle/composting-home>
- 2. Answer the questions below in order to determine the main idea of the text.
- 3. Use one of the supporting details to inspire a service project in your school or community. Your teacher will provide you more information and specific expectations for the project.

Finding the Main Idea — Part One
Read the text 3 times

- ...individually and silently, one time through without stopping.
- ...by listening to your teacher read the text aloud, or with a partner.
- ...for detail, highlighting important ideas and jotting notes in the margins.

Finding the Main Idea — Part Two
The Author

- 4. Who wrote this text? (It can be an individual or an organization)
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- 5. Why do you believe they wrote this text? (If you’re not sure, discuss with a partner, or ask your teacher if you can find out more about the *Environmental Protection Agency*.)
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Finding the Main Idea — Part Three

The Main Idea(s)

1. What is the topic of the text? (1–3 words) _____
2. There are four aspects of composting about which the author gives more information. Write down the author's main idea, or main point, along with 3 supporting details the author provides for each category.

Topic	Main Idea	Supporting Details
The reasons why we should compost		1) 2) 3)
The ingredients of composting		1) 2) 3)
The benefits of composting		1) 2) 3)
How to compost		1) 2) 3)