

Name:

Grade:

Section:



## WHAT WOULD YOU DO?



We learned that many of the things around us are made of solids. These things come from nature, like the METALS, ROCKS, and MINERALS we get by mining. The strength of these solid materials makes them so useful but at the same time, this can cause environmental problems because solids take years to break down! As a student, write 3 ways you can do to protect the environment from this while you're at home or school.



# MICROCOMPOST

Make your own compost from scraps.

## MATERIALS

- 1 liter soda bottle
- Scissors
- Raw food scraps (vegetable/fruit peel, tea bags, coffee grounds, raw leftovers)
- Soil
- Water spray bottle

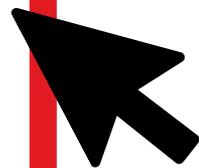
## INSTRUCTIONS

1. Remove the label and rinse the soda bottle. Cut the top off the bottle.
2. Place a handful of soil into the bottom of the bottle followed by a handful of food scraps. Repeat this until the bottle is full.
3. Place a final layer of soil and spray the bottle with water until it is just damp.
4. Place the composter in a sunny spot and remember to spray the top soil with water when it dries out.!



# SHARE YOUR COMPOST!

Composting is a great way to take responsibility for the waste we generate everyday! Even a simple microcompost like the one you made today is a step in the right direction. Imagine how much waste we could save if we all took the time to make our own microcomposts! Luckily, we can reach people all around the world through social media!





# CARBON FOOTPRINT CALCULATOR



Encircle the letter that best answers the questions and then use the scoring instructions to calculate your "carbon footprint" or the effect your family has on the climate in terms of greenhouse gasses you produce!

**1. How do you get to school?**

- a. Walk or ride your bike
- b. Motorcycle
- c. Car
- d. Bus or van

**2. What kind of vehicle(s) do your parents drive?**

- a. None (Don't own a vehicle)
- b. Motorcycle only
- c. Car
- d. SUV, van, or truck

**3. How often does someone in your family fly in a plane?**

- a. Less than once per month
- b. Once per month
- c. 2 to 4 times per month
- d. Once or more per week

**4. How often does your family eat out or order food at a restaurant?**

- a. Never
- b. Once per month
- c. Once per week
- d. Twice or more per week

**5. What kind of food does your family eat?**

- a. Home grown or raised
- b. Combination of store brought and home grown
- c. Store bought only

**6. How many carbonated drinks (soda or softdrinks) do you drink?**

- a. None
- b. 1 can per day
- c. 2 cans per day
- d. 3 or more cans per day

**7. How often does your family do laundry?**

- a. Once per month
- b. Twice per month
- c. Once per week
- d. Twice or more per week

**8. Do you get newspapers or magazines at home?**

- a. Yes
- b. No

**9. Do you turn the lights off when not needed?**

- a. Yes
- b. No

**10. Do you turn off your computer, video games or other electronics when you're not using them?**

- a. Yes
- b. No

**11. What type of fuel or energy is used to heat your home?**

- a. Wood
- b. Propane
- c. Oil
- d. Natural gas

**12. Does anyone in your home own any of the following items? (Circle all that apply.)**

- a. TV
- b. Cellphone
- c. DVD player
- d. Computer
- e. Washing machine
- f. Dishwasher
- g. Refrigerator
- h. Motorcycle
- i. Motorboat



**SCORING INSTRUCTIONS:**

For questions 1 through 11, assign 1 point for each A answer, 2 points for each B, 3 points for each C, and 4 points for each D. For question 12, assign 1 point for each item encircled. Add the points together to determine your "carbon footprint."

**13-20 Points:**

Green is your favorite color.  
Keep up the good work!

**21-28 Points:**

Very good!

**29-36 Points:**

Your efforts are appreciated!

**36-43 Points:**

There's room for improvement.

**44-46 Points:**

Look for ways to become better  
friends with Mother Nature!