DE-COM-PO-SI-TION.
WHEN YOU COMPOSE SOMETHING YOU
PUT IT TOGETHER -- WHEN YOU
DECOMPPOSE IT, YOU TAKE IT APART.
I CHEW ON ORGANIC RESIDUE.

DID SOMEBODY SAY ROTTEN TOMATO?
I'm good bacteria—
I'm everywhere.

Meet my friends, the decomposers!

I ❤️ mold!

Mmmmm, what's for dessert?
Whether you mix it up, or leave it alone, compost happens best at home, at work, at school-
wherever you combine green stuff (nitrogen), brown stuff (carbon), air and water.
ANOTHER LANDFILL? More than one-fourth of the discards headed for the landfill can be composted.

PROJECT Start composting by mixing things like dried or green leaves, wood chips, straw, lettuce leaves, banana peels, apple cores, used paper towels, toilet paper rolls, and other kinds of paper that you can’t recycle where you live. Put all of these things together in a compost container or pile. Adding pet droppings can spread disease. Meat and dairy products attract animals. Bury your new additions in your pile to avoid pest problems.

RECIPE FOR MAKING PLANT FOOD When your mixture shrinks and looks dark and crumbly, add it to the soil around your trees, bushes and plants.

WORDS TO KNOW
Bacteria- Living things that are so small you need a microscope to see them. One of their favorite foods is green stuff, which is rich in nitrogen.

Nitrogen-A colorless, tasteless substance found in all living things. Green or colorful things like fresh lettuce leaves have lots of nitrogen in them.

Carbon-A substance that occurs in anything that is or was once alive. Dry leaves are brown because they have lots of carbon in them. Brown stuff is rich in carbon.

Mold-A wooly or fluffy group of tiny plants.

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