

Name: _____ Block: _____ Date: _____

Food Waste Journey Comic

COMPOST

Organic materials (things that once were alive) are put together in a pile.

Microorganisms such as bacteria, fungi, insects and worms start to eat the waste and break it down into soil.

Over many weeks the pile of food and plant waste is converted into soil. The more oxygen available to the microbes, the faster the process of creating soil.

LANDFILL

Organic materials are mixed in a landfill with inorganic household trash such as plastics, metals, and glass.

Oxygen is cut off and microorganisms are not able to turn food waste into soil. Instead methane gas is created.

Methane gas floats into the atmosphere and traps in heat from the sun leading to warmer temperatures and changes in Earth's climate..

organic – made of things that are alive or once were alive (plants and animals)

inorganic – made of things that were never alive (plastic, metal, rocks, glass, etc)