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Compost Stew: An A To Z Recipe For The Earth



Synopsis

From apple cores to zinnia heads, readers will discover the best ingredients for a successful compost pile! Â Â Kids everywhere are knowledgeable about the environment and climate change. Not only is composting becoming more common in households and residential gardens, but many school gardens feature compost piles, too. But how do you start a compost pile? WhatÂ¢â ¬â„¢s safe to include? Perfect for an Earth Day focus or year-round reference, this inviting book provides all the answers for kids and families looking for simple, child-friendly ways to help the planet. From the Hardcover edition.

Book Information

Lexile Measure: 0780 (What's this?)

Paperback: 40 pages

Publisher: Dragonfly Books; Reprint edition (October 14, 2014)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0385755384

ISBN-13: 978-0385755382

Product Dimensions: 10.1 x 0.2 x 10.1 inches

Shipping Weight: 7.8 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 stars 46 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #41,950 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #12 inÂ Â Books > Children's Books > Education & Reference > Science Studies > Nature > Gardening #31 inÂ Â Books > Children's Books > Science, Nature & How It Works > Experiments & Projects #63 inÂ Â Books > Children's Books > Education & Reference > Science Studies > Nature > Environment

Age Range: 3 - 7 years

Grade Level: Preschool - 2

Customer Reviews

Kindergarten-Grade 4Â¢â ¬â•An easy recipe for soil enrichment. Well written in rhyming text, the descriptive phrases are as engaging as a list of, well, garbage might be: "Dirt clods, crumbled/Eggshells crushed/Fruit pulp left behind, all mashed/Grass clippings/Hair snippings/and an Insect or two/Just add to the pot/and let it all rot/into Compost Stew." Collage illustrations, also made of recycled ingredients, reinforce the theme of reusing materials to create something new. As colorful and charming as the compositions are, the human and animal figures are flat and uninspiring. Student environmental groups might use this recipe to expand school recycling efforts

and create compost for vegetable and flower gardens, or to give away to community members. Using cafeteria scraps, recycled paper, and grass clippings would teach students how to make this rich, robust stew work for their own school gardens and, literally and figuratively, improve the earth. This book is recommended as a general addition to library collections and a primary selection for in-school environmental education. Use it with Linda Glaser's *Garbage Helps Our Garden Grow* (Millbrook, 2010), Raymond Bial's *A Handful of Dirt* (Walker, 2000), or Bianca Lavies's *Compost Critters* (Dutton, 1993).
•Mary Hazelton, Elementary Schools in Warren & Waldoboro, ME
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Environmental chefs, / here's a recipe for you / . . . to mix a batch / of Compost Stew. With bouncing, rhyming lines, this cheerful title uses the alphabet to introduce children to ingredients that make great compost, from apple cores to zinnias whose blooming days are through. The text includes some creative solutions for typically challenging letters ("Xmas tree needles"), and kids will have fun chanting along with the refrain: "Just add to the pot / and let it all rot / into Compost Stew." A short supplementary note about what compost is and why it is beneficial is included, along with an explanation for a few obscure ingredients, such as "quarry dust." This title highlights a subject rarely covered in youth books and provides a lighthearted introduction to an earth- and kid-friendly activity. The brightly patterned collage artwork featuring a cast of multicultural kids working together will easily draw a young audience. Preschool-Grade 2. --Gillian Engberg --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Such a good book that I ordered another one!!!!!!

Love it

Very cute

Compost Stew is now tops on my five-star list of alphabet books for kids! The combination of author and illustrator is superb and will no doubt entertain and educate the youngest of readers. Teaching our children about composting is so important for the future of planet Earth. I highly recommend this book as a beginner guide to introduce children to composting as a way of turning trash into

treasure. Children of all ages - yes, Adult, this means you - will appreciate this beauty of an ABC book.

Amazing addition to my classroom! My 4 year olds loved it.

Compost Stew combines lessons in gardening with learning the alphabet. The art work is lovely and well done. I have used it with grandchildren of preschool age and they love it. We encourage composing scraps and recycling. They recognize the little triangle on plastics and put those items in the appropriate bin. This summer we will engage them in our garden and remind them that their fruit and vegetable scraps are making their carrots and peas!

very cute book to teach about compost!

Wonderfully written book, used in a preschool classroom and the kids LOVE it!!

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