



# Why is composting important?

Composting reclaims vital nutrients such as nitrogen, calcium, potassium, and more which are need in soil to grow healthy plants! The best compost pile will contain a mixture of *nitrogen* rich material (called greens) and *carbon* rich material (called browns). The *environment* has to be just right in order to stimulate the presence of *organisms* such as worms and bacteria which help break down the organic material into nutrient rich soil. Learn more about what it takes to make a healthy compost pile by playing COMPOST MEMORY!

## Compost Memory:

**Goal:** Earn points by collecting matches and adding them to your compost pile. Score extra points by collecting matches from all four compost categories.

### Compost Categories:

- Greens– green stripe (10 cards)
- Browns– brown stripe (10 cards)
- Environment– blue stripe (6 cards)
- Organisms– yellow stripe (8 cards)

### Instructions:

1. Cut out the playing cards and shuffle them.
2. Lay the cards face down in a 7x5 grid on a flat surface.
3. Take turns flipping over two cards at a time.

**If the cards match** keep them for your compost pile. Play moves to the left.

**If the cards do not match** flip them back over in place. Play moves to the left.

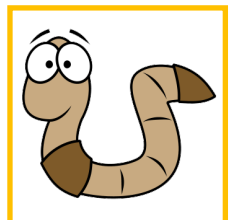
**If the landfill card is uncovered** the turn is over and the player that uncovered it loses their next turn. Flip the uncovered cards back onto their face. Play moves to the left.

Take turns until all the matches are found

**Scoring:** Score 1 point for each match you collect for your compost pile. Collect matches from all four compost categories and score 5 bonus points. The player with the most points at the end of the game wins!

### Includes

- 1 Instruction sheet
- 2 playing card pages (35 cards)



Banana peels



High in potassium

Banana peels



High in potassium

Coffee grounds



Can also repel slugs and snails

Coffee grounds



Can also repel slugs and snails

Grass clippings



Rich in nitrogen

Hair/Fur



Slowly releases nitrogen

Hair/Fur



Slowly releases nitrogen

Manure



jumpstarts healthy bacteria growth

Manure



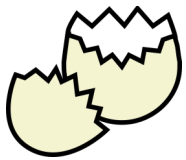
jumpstarts healthy bacteria growth

Grass clippings



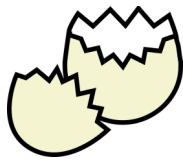
Rich in nitrogen

Egg shells



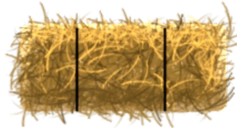
Rich in calcium

Egg shells



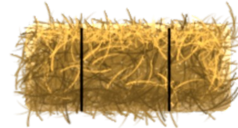
Rich in calcium

Straw



Adds vital plant nutrients

Straw



Adds vital plant nutrients

Dry Leaves



Adds vital plant nutrients

Food stained napkins



This fibrous material is great for compost!

Food stained napkins



This fibrous material is great for compost!

Corn Husks



Adds vital plant nutrients

Corn Husks




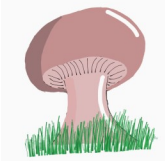








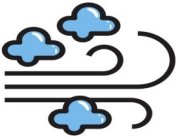
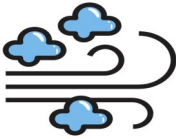
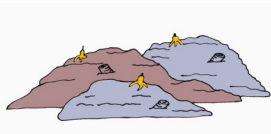


Adds vital plant nutrients

Dry Leaves



Adds vital plant nutrients

<p><b>Worms</b></p>  <p>Converts organics into manure</p>	<p><b>Worms</b></p>  <p>Converts organics into manure</p>	<p><b>Fungi</b></p>  <p>Breaks down tough debris</p>	<p><b>Fungi</b></p>  <p>Breaks down tough debris</p>	<p><b>Bacteria</b></p>  <p>Breaks down organics &amp; warms up the compost pile</p>
<p><b>Actinomycetes</b></p>  <p>Microorganism that Breaks down woody materials.</p>	<p><b>Actinomycetes</b></p>  <p>Microorganism that Breaks down woody materials.</p>	<p><b>Bacteria</b></p>  <p>Breaks down organics &amp; warms up the compost pile</p>	<p><b>Temperature</b></p>  <p>Stimulates the growth of microorganisms.</p>	<p><b>Temperature</b></p>  <p>Stimulates the growth of microorganisms.</p>
<p><b>Water</b></p>  <p>Proper moisture is needed for healthy organism growth</p>	<p><b>Water</b></p>  <p>Proper moisture is needed for healthy organism growth</p>	<p><b>Oxygen</b></p>  <p>Stimulates the presence of aerobic organisms</p>	<p><b>Oxygen</b></p>  <p>Stimulates the presence of aerobic organisms</p>	<p><b>Landfill</b></p> <p>organic material in the landfill creates greenhouse gases.</p>  <p><b>LOSE ONE TURN</b></p>

### Alternative play: *COMPOST OLD MAID*

Cut out the playing cards, then shuffle cards and deal them to each player. Players pull the matches from their hand and lay them on the table—this is your compost pile. Players then take turns drawing cards from the person to their left. If the cards match then add them to the compost pile. If the card does not match, it remains in your hand. Play continues until all the matches are found. The player with the landfill card at the end of the game loses.