

Master Composter Conference 2008



Activity Ideas using Props

1. Eggbox

- Use for growing plants
- Use as a seed tray
- Use as browns to promote mixing in brown materials
- To sprout potatoes in
- Shred for composting
- Paper mache rat!

2. Wellies

- Grow plants in them
- Wear them
- Save water in them – make a water feature
- A prize in a competition
- Welly wanging competition - - wellie wanging for children
- 'Good composters don't need wellies'
- Essential for using in composting (on feet!) – but may put new composters off if you have to get dirty

3. Composting Ingredients

- Display of what can and can't be recycled and composting and to how
- Annotate items with comments to help composting eg 'shred' etc
- Modern art or compost it!
- Containers split up into greens and browns
- Competition– prizes for identifying what can and can't be composted
- Make rubbish models
- Get children to sort into compostable and non-compostable
- Use toilet roll tubes for seedlings
- Use items to do a 'Blue Peter' recycling type project and make a toy or game

4. Plastic potato planters

- Plant up and 'grow your own' – demonstrates you don't need a garden to use your compost
- Why use this? Unnecessary because of plastic
- Do it yourself with your compost
- Give as a free gift
- Get people to plant up the bag and see how easy it is

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5. Rats

- Bat a rat in a trap (diagram provided!)
- Show roll of wire or plasterers lath/mesh to put under bins
- Use to capture attention at event
- Put next to home made 'no entry' sign
- Buy a roll of wire netting 12m x 4ft wide and cut up into 4' square pieces to sell
- Roast – tastes like chicken
- Christmas decorations
- To demonstrate compost creatures – those you want and those you don't want near compost and ways of eradication!

6. Glass bottle

- Drink contents at the end of the day
- Make paper pots using as a mould
- Use as path border
- Bury in ground and leave next exposed, some ways the wind over the top deters moles (some debate if this works or not!)
- Display of non compostable (but recyclable) items
- Vase for cut flowers or a candle holder
- Compost relay – have different items – compostable & non-compostables relay race to compost bin
- Container for watering plants

7. Happy Maiz Compostable Toy

- Poohsticks
- Make paper (very successful)
- Drainage in pots/hanging baskets (much lighter – but it would disintegrate?)
- Decorate compost bins
- Make things with children whilst talking to adults.
- To model compost critters
- To encourage children to your stall
- Nursery / schools workshops
- Prize/ free gift for children
- Make pictures of what can & can't be recycled

8. Gloves

- Gloves for handling compost – health and safety
- Make into glove puppet as composter people