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Garbage Helps Our Garden Grow: A Compost Story



Synopsis

What is that garbage doing next to the garden? It's not garbage. It's compost! Amazing things happen inside a compost bin. In go banana peels, grass clippings, and even an old jack-o'-lantern. Out comes compost. The compost goes into the garden to make the soil rich for new plants. Compost is good for the earth. Composting also helps us make less garbage. In this book, you can watch as one family makes compost for their garden and also learn how to start your very own compost bin!

Book Information

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Average Customer Review: 5.0 out of 5 starsÂ See all reviewsÂ (2 customer reviews)

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Age Range: 5 - 8 years

Grade Level: 1 - 3

Customer Reviews

I'm sure many people have heard the nursery rhyme, "Mary, Mary quite contrary, how does your garden grow?" If you want to grow the best garden you can, one of the best ways is to actually use your garbage. In this book the family has a nice garden and grows many different kinds of plants, but in order to make them grow as best as they can they use compost. A compost bin is a good place to put garbage in. Naturally we are not talking about plastic bottles or things like "meat scraps or dairy products" because they will attract unwanted animals to your bin. This family's compost bin is a "big box" made of wood. The children of the family carefully collect their garbage and put it in a large plastic container until they are ready to take it to their composting bin. They put things such as

"cantaloupe rinds and Dad's coffee grounds from breakfast, leftover lettuce from lunch, old broccoli from the fridge, and peanut shells from [their] snack." They gather and put things in the bin like grass, leaves, vines, flowers and other "organic matter." Every now and then one of the children will spray the pile to keep it damp. Their mother helps turn the pile with her pitchfork. In this book you can watch as this family composts their "garbage" into compost that will eventually put "important nutrients back into the soil" and make "the earth richer." This is a perfect book to introduce children to composting and its benefits to our gardens and environment. The book has a nice layout and is quite homey in that we see a family and some of their friends actually working on their own compost pile. This personal approach, in addition to the back material, is an easy and fun way for children to learn.

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