Food Recycling VS. Composting

What happens to our food waste when we "recycle" it?

Objectives

- To learn why we use the term "food recycling" in our program
- Be able to explain the difference between anaerobic digestion and composting

Materials

- Access to videos: What is Anaerobic Digestion and Agricycle
- Access to video: Compost for Kids
- Access to lesson plan: Take Home Compost Plan

To learn more, visit: https://umaine.edu/foodrescuemaine/
Procedure

- First, watch videos: "What is Anaerobic Digestion" and "How Compost is Made."
- Next, complete "Take Home Compost Lesson"(Pt 1 and Pt 2.)
- Conduct an in-class discussion with students to compare and contrast anaerobic digestion and composting.

Examples of Discussion Questions:
1. What is the biggest difference between anaerobic digestion and composting?
2. Why do you think oxygen is so important for composting?
3. What gas is produced by food if it breaks down without oxygen?

Hint: Landfills

Assessment

- The in-class discussion for this lesson will assess the student's understanding of material. It is recommended to review old concepts prior to discussion.

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