

Vocabulary



compost A mixture of soil and decayed plant and animal material.

Compost provides nutrients for plants. Many people make compost at home from kitchen scraps. Compost is used as fertilizer in the garden.

decomposer An organism that breaks down dead plant and animal matter.

Soil contains many types of decomposers: earthworms, fungi, mold, insects, and bacteria. Without decomposers, organic waste would pile up and plants would run out of food.