

Renee Cunningham

## Dirt Don't Hurt! 45 min

Objective:

Students will have an understanding of what compost is, and it's benefits.

Big Idea:

Compost is more than just dirt.

### 1. Warm Up / Anticipatory 5 min

Pose these questions to students:

\*What is in dirt?

\*How does it help plants grow?

### 2. Investigation and New Learning 20 min

Read Wonder. Brainstorm a list of everyday items that you encounter that could be composted.

### 3. Review & Check for Understanding 30 min

(If your school has a compost bin, visit it to see what the contents look like). If not...



Get a large bucket (perhaps from custodial staff); take a walk around the school to gather items that could be composted. This would be a great activity to do as you leave lunch to gather appropriate food compost items.

Note: This would be a lesson that could extend for several weeks/months. Allow students to visit the compost bin regularly to see how the contents are changing. It would be easy to do a photo essay to document the changes.