

SECTION DATASHEET

1.3 Investigate Decomposers**Where do decomposers come from?**

MATERIALS: clear soda bottle with cap, scissors, stones, garden soil, leaves, fruit slices, masking tape, marker, water

PROCEDURE

- Carefully use scissors to cut an opening across the middle of the bottle.
- Place a handful of stones in the bottom of the bottle for drainage, and add enough soil to make a layer 10-cm deep.
- Place some leaves and fruit slices on top of the soil.
- Seal the cut you made with tape. Mark the date on the tape.
- Add water through the top of the bottle to moisten the soil, and put the cap on the bottle. Wash your hands.
- Observe the fruit slices each day for two weeks. Record your observations. Keep the soil moist.

Day	Observation	Day	Observation
1		8	
2		9	
3		10	
4		11	
5		12	
6		13	
7		14	

OBSERVE AND THINK

1. What do you observe happening to the fruit slices?

2. Where do the decomposers in your bottle come from?

CHALLENGE

3. Predict what would happen if you used potting soil instead of soil from outside.
