

# Compost Tea

## Age/Grade Range

- Ages: 8-18+

## Group Size

- 1-3 children in a group

## Time

- Set-up: 5-10 minutes
- Activity: 15 minutes + 24 hours (non-active)

## Materials

- 1 cup of compost or worm castings
- A pair of pantyhose or nylon socks
- 2 tablespoons molasses or sugar or honey
- 4 litres rain water or tap water that has been left to stand in an open container overnight (so that the chlorine evaporates)
- Bucket for holding water
- Aquarium pump or other bubbler

## Set Up

1. Prepare materials and set up activity station

## Activity Directions

1. Fill bucket with water and add molasses, sugar or honey. Stir to dissolve. The sweetener provides food for micro-organisms to flourish.
2. Put compost or worm castings into the pantyhose or nylon sock and tie a knot to close. Place in bucket of water.
3. Set-up the aquarium pump in the bucket and plug in to begin aeration. Let the mixture bubble for at least 24 hours. Aeration helps create the ideal conditions for good micro-organisms to flourish and suppresses the growth of bad ones.
4. Water your classroom plants/school garden using the compost tea right after brewing to ensure it is biologically active- alive with good microbes! Keep it refrigerated for up to a few days if you are not able to use right away.
5. Use compost tea on your garden once every week or two to keep plants strong and healthy!



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## Topic

- Local Food Production

## Objective

- Learn to make compost tea.
- Compost tea is an easy organic liquid fertilizer for growing food.
- Compost tea can be used on vegetables, fruits, or house plants to add beneficial bacteria, fungi, and protozoa to the soil.