Vocabulary

Lesson: Where do fallen leaves go?

bacteria	very tiny organisms that you need a microscope to see; they are often decomposers
compost	decomposed material that can be used as fertilizer
decompose	the process of breaking down dead plants, dead animals, or animal waste
decomposer	a living thing that can break down dead plants, dead animals, or animal waste
environment	a living thing's surroundings, including other living things and non-living parts like soil, water, and air
evidence	information that can be used to support or reject an idea
fungus (fungi)	a living thing that is a decomposer, such as a mold or mushroom
matter	anything that takes up space and has weight; can be in different forms such as solid, liquid, or gas
microscope	a tool used to see very tiny things up close
model	a pretend version of something that scientists use when the real thing is too big, small, or complicated to work with
mold	a type of fungus that often decomposes food
mushroom	a type of fungus that usually has a stalk and cap
organism	any living thing
soil	found on the Earth's surface; made of tiny rocks and material from dead plants and animals