

Lesson: Where do fallen leaves go?

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| bacteria | an organism that is usually a decomposer; some cause illness |
| compost | decayed plant material that can be used as fertilizer |
| decompose | the process of breaking down dead organisms or animal waste |
| decomposer | a living thing that can break down dead organisms 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 | covers the Earth's surface; made of tiny rocks and material from dead plants and animals |