

COMPOST

Revealing the wisdom of divine activity

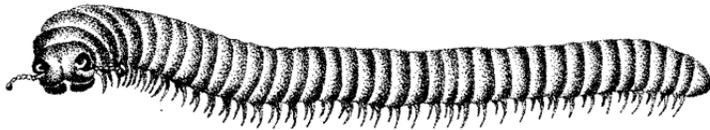
Jesus uses a HUGE number of different creatures in forests, meadows, and compost piles to bring about decomposition.



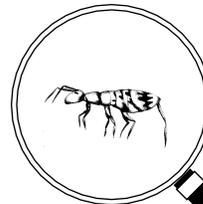
Beetles



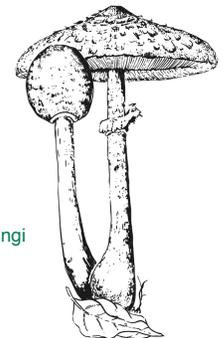
Worms



Millipedes & centipedes

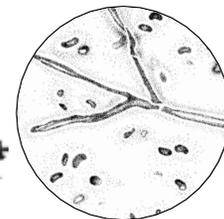


Springtails

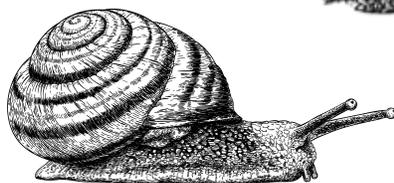


Fungi

Each of the organisms in a compost pile is known as a decomposer.



Microbes



Snails

Decomposers work together. One organism chews up leaves. Another organism digests the remains, and so on, until all the compost is turned into black dirt.

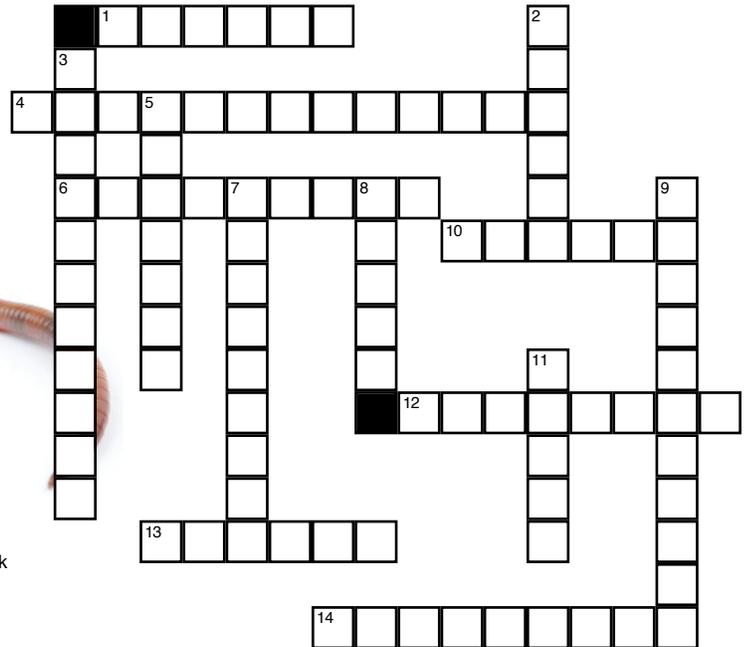
Answers to CROSSWORD found in
kids' kreation #85

Down: 1. HEART 2. CALORIES 3. SACS
5. TEETH 6. FLIGHT 7. ARCTIC
Across: 2. COMPLEX 4. FLY
6. FEATHERS 8. CONTOUR
9. WEIGHT

CROSSWORD

The words used in the
CROSSWORD are taken
from the article found in
CREATOR Vol 21 Num 2.

Beetle—Canadian Grain Commission
Mushroom—© Irina Simkina/Shutterstock
Snail—andrey oleynik/Shutterstock
Earthworms—motorolka/Shutterstock



Down

2. Decomposition occurs in _____, as well as in summer.
3. The creatures that cause decomposition are called _____.
5. All living things are _____.
7. Decomposers turn dead things into _____ and chemicals.
8. In the soil, _____ "eat" things that bacteria can't digest.
9. Soil microbes produce _____, divinely-wrought chemicals that stunt the growth of other microbes.
11. Jesus created you with molecules built of carbon _____.

Across

1. Anaerobic bacteria are microbes that don't need _____ to survive.
4. _____ is very, very complex.
6. Jesus orchestrates the billions and trillions of _____ involved in decomposition.
10. God recycles _____ so that it can be used over and over in creation.
12. There are more _____ in a teaspoonful of soil than people on earth!
13. "He founded the world by His _____ and stretched out the heavens by His understanding." Jeremiah 10:12 NIV
14. Bacteria secrete _____ that digest the tissues of dead plants and animals.

FAMILY ACTIVITY: Create a compost pile

If you have space outside your home, you might want to consider creating a compost pile. Make sure it is not too near your neighbor's home—sometimes compost gives off an odor that others find unpleasant. If properly tended, however, a compost pile is a great way to recycle leaves, grass clippings, and vegetable scraps from the dinner table. A well-built compost heap will produce rich black soil that has a wonderful earthy smell! This soil, called humus, can then be added to a garden—enriching it and protecting it from disease.

We recommend that you obtain a copy of the book, *Let It Rot!: The Gardener's Guide to Composting* by Stu Campbell (3rd Edition, Storey Books 1998). If you can't find this book at your local library or bookstore, there are many other books that are available on the subject of compost. Or better still, you might want to ask someone you know who has experience composting. There's nothing like first-hand knowledge!

