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Jasmine - Spreading the love of composting

What was your goal and what did you achieve?

My goal was composting at school and getting people to know about waste and how it's affecting our environment. I think waste is a massive problem for our country. Previously at my school the younger classes had the compost and it was going into the garden which was good, and it was going well but none of the older classes collected food scraps or the staff room.

I set up the compost bins for these groups and I organised for the school to get a tumbler for the compost. It's quite a big composter and it can fit a lot of food scraps in it. I put the compost bins in the older classes and I empty it every week. I asked the teachers and they were happy for me to talk to all of their classes just after lunch about the composting process. When the compost is ready, we put it into the garden and we use it for our vegetable garden or anywhere in the school.

What was your main challenge?

Trying to get people to actually compost was hard because people would just put it all in the bin and not really think about what they were doing, so it was hard to get people to participate. To solve that, I taught them more, and I made myself a role model by doing it myself and people followed.

Your advice for other students?

If I did this again next year, I would let people know more before I started the process, because I could have got them to do more.

Next steps?

I hope that the composting keeps going, and it'd be good to get more people composting.

What have you enjoyed most?

Getting to see people actually follow my lead, to see people not putting it in the bin but putting it into the compost makes me happy.

This case study was transcribed from an interview and poster. These are Jasmine's words and opinions.