

Zombie Guacamole

A curricular program that explores decomposition and critiques systems of food and waste in our community

* Grade: 5th

* Available in Spanish

* Includes kit materials & professional development for educators to support implementation

Are you interested in engaging your upper elementary students in ways that connect to their lives and interests through culturally sustaining pedagogy? Do you want to teach science in a way that addresses the complex social and ecological challenges facing the next generation? Are you unsure how to do this in your classroom?



Program description:

In Zombie Guacamole, students build an evidence-based explanation of why a bowl of guacamole was found at the bottom of a 25-year-old landfill, still fresh! The focus of this program is decomposition: what is required for it to occur, its importance to ecosystems, and how waste systems are linked to the health of people and the environment. Students develop explanatory models to describe the movement of matter in an ecosystem and work in groups to manipulate conditions for decomposition in an investigation. Beyond that, students also build knowledge of natural and human-made systems of food production and waste management to inform action in their school community to protect Earth's resources and environment. Through Zombie Guacamole, students can combine scientific understanding, environmental consciousness, and action to become leaders for a more just and sustainable future.

To learn more contact EarthGen's Program Team at info@earthgenwa.org.



Next Generation Science Standards

5-LS2-1 - Develop a model to describe the movement of matter among plants, animals, decomposers, and the environment.

5-ESS3-1- Obtain and combine information about ways individual communities use science ideas to protect the Earth's resources and environment.

5-PS3-1 - Use models to describe that energy in animals' food (used for body repair, growth, and motion and to maintain body warmth) was once energy from the sun.

Integrated Environmental and Sustainability Learning Standards

Standard 2: The Natural and Built Environment - Students engage in inquiry and systems thinking and use information gained through learning experiences in, about, and for the environment to understand the structure, components, and processes of natural and human-built environments.

Ongoing program

enhancements include WIDA Standards + GLAD supports, Since Time Immemorial, Culturally Sustaining Pedagogy, and more