

Filling Up

Making your edible landfill: Assemble the following materials: (**Teacher Note:** Be aware of any possible food allergies that your students might have.)

Layer 1: Individual size pie tin or plastic bowl (representing ground water at the very bottom)

Layer 2: Peanut butter or butterscotch pudding (to represent the compacted clay)

Layer 3: Jelly-like fruit strips (or small circles of finger gelatin as a taffy) two per learner. (flattened out to represent the plastic liner). Place individual string-like pieces of licorice into the landfill to represent Leachate collection pipes.

Layer 4: Finely chopped walnuts (to represent the gravel layer)

Layer 5: Vanilla favored wafers or honeyed crackers – (crushed to represent the sand layer)

Layer 6: Trash:

- Hard rock-like candy or suckers (to represent glass)
- Green sprinkles or green tinted applesauce (to represent organic waste such as food or cut grass)
- White chocolate chips (to represent plastics)
- One cup of rice cereal (to represent paper and cardboard which makes up 40 percent of landfill contents.
- Little candied silver ball (to represent metals);
- Bite size black licorice (to represent tires).
(Almost all of this layer could be recycled to save space in the landfills!)

Layer 7: Top with a layer of crushed chocolate cookies and sprinkle over with green sprinkles (to represent the top layer of soil and grass)

Punch in 2 straws to represent Methane gas collectors.

