

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Age \_\_\_\_\_

# DECOMPOSITION OF LITTER WORKSHEET

## FILL IN THE BLANKS:

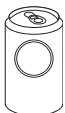
- Most plastic litter ends up in \_\_\_\_\_ once it is thrown away.
- Earth worms, bacteria, fungi break are examples of \_\_\_\_\_. They break down natural materials like vegetables or paper into smaller pieces.
- Decomposers are important as they return nutrients from what they break down back into the \_\_\_\_\_.

## MULTIPLE CHOICE:

- How long, on average, is a plastic bag used for before it is thrown away?
  - 12 minutes
  - 12 hours
  - 12 days
- What happens to plastic waste once it has been littered?
  - As it is biodegradable, it will eventually break down
  - It breaks down into microplastics and so will never fully go away

## MATCH UP THE PAIRS:

Approximately, how long do you think it takes each item to break down? Draw a line between the correct pairs.



6. Aluminium can



2 years



7. Plastic bag



100 years



8. Cardboard box



3 months



9. Banana skin



1 million years



10. Glass jar



500 years

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Age \_\_\_\_\_

# DECOMPOSITION OF LITTER WORKSHEET ANSWERS

## FILL IN THE BLANKS:

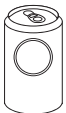
1. Most plastic litter ends up in the **ocean** once it is thrown away.
2. Earth worms, bacteria, fungi break are examples of **decomposers**. They break down natural materials like vegetables or paper into smaller pieces.
3. Decomposers are important as they return nutrients from what they break down into the **soil**.

## MULTIPLE CHOICE:

4. How long, on average, is a plastic bag used for before it is thrown away?  
**A. 12 minutes**  
 B. 12 hours  
 C. 12 days
5. What happens to plastic waste once it has been littered?  
 A. As it is biodegradable, it will eventually be completely broken down  
**B. It breaks down into microplastics and so will never fully go away**

## MATCH UP THE PAIRS:

Approximately, how long do you think it takes each item to break down? Draw a line between the correct pairs.



6. Aluminium can



7. Plastic bag



8. Cardboard box



9. Banana skin



10. Glass jar

