



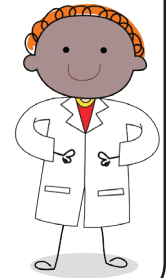
Name ..... Date .....

## How Do Materials Biodegrade?

Let's investigate how different materials biodegrade in soil.

### Gather your equipment:

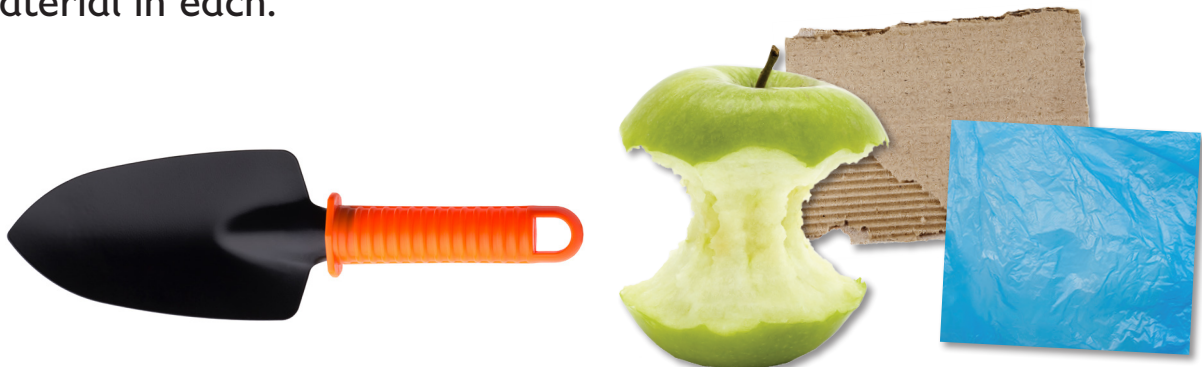
- An apple core
- A small piece of cardboard
- A small piece of thin plastic (for example, cut from a plastic bag)
- A small trowel
- 3 large pebbles
- A waterproof marker pen
- A small patch of garden soil
- A notebook and pen



1. Write Apple, Card and Plastic on the three pebbles with the marker.



2. Dig three small holes about 10 cm deep in the soil and put one material in each.



3. Fill in the holes and place a pebble on top to mark the spot.  
Leave the materials buried for four weeks.



Name ..... Date .....

**How do you think each material will look after four weeks?**

**Record your predictions here.**

Apple .....

.....

Card .....

.....

Plastic .....

.....

4. After four weeks dig up your materials.

**How has each material changed?**

Apple .....

.....

Card .....

.....

Plastic .....

.....

**Did your predictions match what happened?**

Apple .....

.....

Card .....

.....

Plastic .....

.....

If you wish, you can bury your materials for another four weeks to see what happens next.

At the end of the experiment, dig up the plastic and recycle it or throw it away.