

# Rot-Not Landfills

**What happens to your trash after it's been sitting in your trash can?  
Is it stinky? Does it produce heat and moisture?**

These are characteristics of decay, which occurs with the help of oxygen and moisture. Landfills are built to block air and moisture in order to prevent pollution to the environment. Therefore, in a landfill, things do not breakdown and instead sit in mountains of waste unchanged for many years.



## SEE FOR YOURSELF

All you need for this experiment are 2 glass jars (one with a lid and one without), 2 pieces of bread and a little water.



1. Toast both pieces of bread.
2. Place one piece of bread in the jar with the lid and close it tightly.
3. Place the second piece of toast in the jar without the lid. Sprinkle a little water on the toast.
4. Wait a week or more and observe the results.

## Questions and Observations:

A. What happened to the toast in the closed jar? Why?

B. What happened to the toast in the open jar? Why?

C. How is the closed jar similar to a landfill?