**School Garden 101**

**Session 1: Compost**

**Homework**

**I. School Group Assignment (required)**

* Create a school compost plan by writing a description of the following:
  + What source(s) of food waste have you chosen?
  + Who would collect the waste?
  + How often would you empty the collection buckets? Who would empty them?
  + What type of bin would you build? Where will it be located?

**II. Germination Chamber:**

Make daily observations of the germination chamber you created in today’s class over a period of two weeks. Keep a project journal that includes your recorded observations (including labeled drawings) for each day. **Bring your chamber and your journal back to class in two weeks.**

**III. Individual Assignment Ideas**

1. **School Classroom Lesson Materials (*Resources are in your binder.)***

***Refer to Lesson #1 Bibliography for website links or information on how to purchase these publications.*** [***Lesson 1 Bibliography.pdf***](http://umaine.edu/hancock/files/2010/06/Bibliography-of-School-Classroom-Lesson-Materials-Composting-PDF2.pdf)

* Compost Critter Charades
* Intro to Compost
* Rainy Day Worms
* Compost Lesson
* A Worm’s-Eye View of Composting
* Vermicondo
* What Worms Want
* Make a Traveling Worm Bin

**B. Additional Ideas**

* Measure your school’s food waste
  + Measure food waste by collecting it in a separate container (with a trash bag liner) and weighing it.
  + Try collecting pre consumer waste (i.e. onion peels and carrot tops) and post consumer waste (i.e. apple cores and uneaten salad)
  + Create a plan to minimize waste (i.e. a marketing campaign to get students to eat the food they take)