

★ Quicklook at "Decay Connect Four"

Inspired by the timelapse photos of decaying fruit at the Tate Modern, I have adapted this activity to "do it yourself." Originally the game board spelt out the different rates of decay, and the cards contained pictures of the items. I have turned it around so that children can collect pictures or even use real items (the decaying gameboard!) to assemble their own gameboards and try the activity out on each other. In many cases the process of making the game is in itself a fruitful activity which stimulates a lot thought and talk. I have provided a sample board with items but without pictures.

decays
quickly

decays
slowly

doesn't
decay

Decay Connect Four Board

| | | | |
|---------------|----------------|------------------|----------------|
| newspaper | plastic pen | tomato | brick |
| woolly hat | mug | pencil | ribena carton |
| coke can | plastic bottle | banana skin | knife and fork |
| sweet wrapper | apple | bar of chocolate | feather |
| orange | lump of cheese | sandwich | glass bottle |

There are only three categories of decay provided but you might want to increase the categories with more mature/sophisticated students.