

Recycling Resource 1

How long does it take objects to decompose?

Look at the names of the objects in the list below.

In pairs, decide how long it takes each object to decompose (rot).

Paper	Orange peel
Milk Carton	Aluminium can
Styrofoam	Leaves
Plastic container (plastic cup)	Glass bottle
Tin can	Plastic bag
Plastic soda bottle	Paper

Write your answers in the table below

<b>Decomposition rate</b>	<b>Name of object</b>
2-4 weeks	
1-3 months	
6 months	
5 years	
10-20 years	
50-80 years	
80 years	
100 years	
450 years	
500 years	
Never	

## Answers

Decomposition rate	Name of object
2-4 weeks	Paper
1-3 months	Leaves
6 months	Orange peel
5 years	Milk Carton
10-20 years	Plastic bag
50-80 years	Plastic container
80 years	Aluminium can
100 years	Tin can
450 years	Plastic soda bottle
500 years	Glass bottle
Never	Styrofoam

Source: <http://www.solcomhouse.com/recycling.html>