

Ideas for chamber components:

Terrestrial Chamber:

Soil:

You will probably want a mixture of planter mix and soil. For the soil, consider what types you have available between your group members. Do you want dry and rocky? Sandy? Soil that has had plants growing in it recently?

Seeds:

Since you have a small growing space, think small in terms of your plants. Fast growing plants like beans are out. Read the seed packets in the classroom as you think about what to plant. A few seedlings may be available.

Decomposition Chamber:

Organic Matter:

Some mix of leaves, grass, planter mix and easily decomposed food such as fruit (no citrus, no peels) should constitute the material in this chamber. Consider what fraction you think each of these components should be.

Insects:

You should be able to support a number of insects in your decomposition chamber. Insects like *drosophila* (fruit flies) can fly back and forth between the terrestrial and decomposition chambers and help degrade the food. What other insects can you think of to include? Do you want to put them in the terrestrial or decomposition chamber?

Aquatic Chamber:

Water:

Not all water is the same. Do you want to include fresh tap water? Old tap water? Distilled water? Pond water? What is your reasoning?

Solid material:

Choose gravel or sand or a mix to go in the bottom of your aquatic chamber

Organisms: Fish, snails, and elodea are available to go in your aquatic chamber. Be especially careful to limit the number of larger organisms in this chamber as you will not open it to add food. Add only the number of consumers you think this chamber can support.