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Daily News Friday, 10th June 2022

## Scientists Find Way to Turn Food Waste into 'Edible Cement'

By NewsRoom Team

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**Image:** Cabbage leaves made a material four times stronger than cement.

What do you do with food waste once you're finished with it? You might compost it or simply throw it into the bin.

Researchers at the University of Tokyo have developed a method of reusing food waste by turning it into cement. [Twinkl NewsRoom](#) **Scientists Find Way to Turn Food Waste into 'Edible Cement'**

They claim that it could help tackle the problems of food waste and global warming.

The researchers have found that a variety of foods can be used to make the 'edible cement'. These include banana peel, onions, orange peel, tea leaves, coffee grounds, and pumpkin.

The researchers found that most of these foods produce a material stronger than concrete. Cabbage leaves have the best results, creating a material nearly four times stronger than concrete.

The researchers in Japan also say it can be turned back into food. All you have to do is break it up and boil it!

But, how do you go from laying the table to laying bricks?

To make the 'edible cement', the researchers dry the food waste. They then crush it into a powder. This powder can then be pressed into a mould.

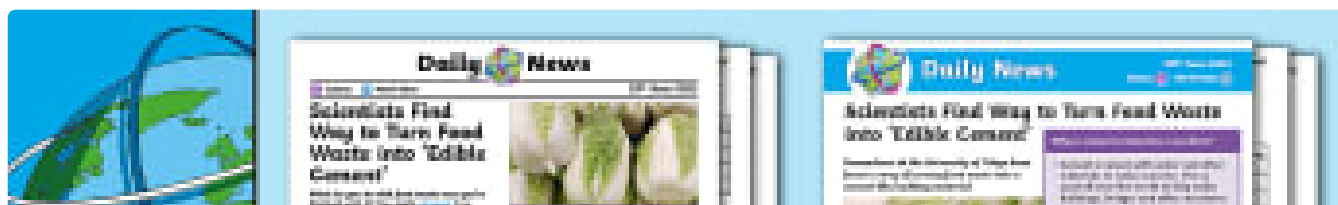
Researchers say that this edible alternative could solve problems created by cement production and food waste.

According to the UN Environment Programme's Food Waste Index, more than 900 million tonnes of food is thrown away every year globally. Not only is this taking up space in landfill, it is also responsible for up to 10% of greenhouse gas emissions.

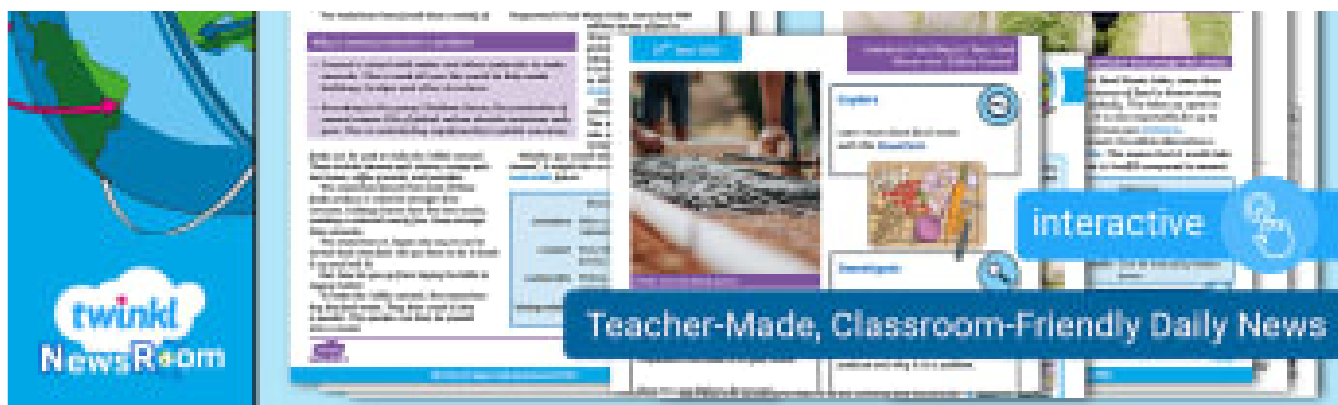
Unlike cement, the edible alternative is biodegradable. This means that it would take up less space in landfill compared to cement.

Whether you would take a bite of this 'edible cement', it might take us down a path to a more sustainable future.

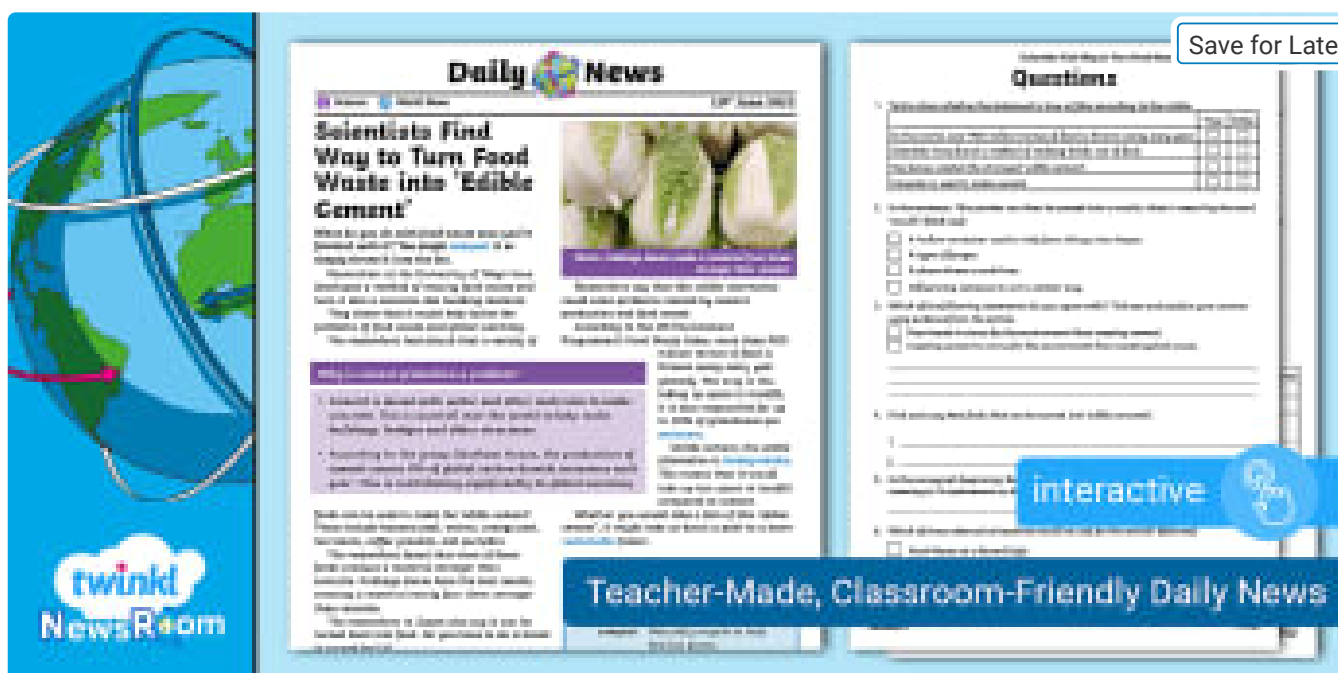
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\* New \* Edible Cement Daily NewsRoom Pack (ages 7-11)



\* New \* Interactive PDF: Daily NewsRoom Article - Edible Cement (ages 9-11)

## Daily News Activities

Explore

Learn more about food waste with this [PowerPoint](#).

Write

Help

Think about how you can implement the three Rs in your home.

How can you Reduce, Reuse and Recycle more?

Write a plan of what you could do.

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### Investigate

Food waste isn't the only type of waste we have on our planet.

Investigate other types of waste we produce and why it is a problem.

You could use this resource:

[A Life On Our Planet: Eliminate Waste with David Attenborough \[Ages 9 - 11\]](#)

Find out about:

- different types of waste;
- how people are wasteful;
- single-use items;
- how people can make a difference;
- the three Rs.

## Related Resources

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**Edible Cement Daily NewsRoom Pack (ages 7-11)**