

# What Is Soil?

**Healthy Soil is a living, breathing organism that is the foundation of all life on Earth.** Healthy soil is made up of many different ingredients that soil scientists and farmers study to help them grow healthy plants. In this activity, you will get to see, touch, and draw different ingredients in soil!



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**First**, collect a scoop of soil from a safe, clean spot outside. You can put the soil in a bag or cup, or on a plate, and then bring it inside. This may get a little messy, so it's a good idea to put some newspaper down where you will be working.

**Next**, take some time to observe the soil with your eyes. What do you see in the soil? You can touch the soil, too, if you'd like. What does it feel like?

**Below**, draw all of the things you see in your soil. If you're lucky, you may find **sand, roots, rocks, insects, worms, leaves, twigs, or pieces of wood.**

