

Soils - Student Handouts

Soils KWL

What do you already know about soils?

K

What do you want to know about soils?

W

What did you learn about soils?

L

Soil Observations

Questions	Soil Sample #1	Soil Sample #2	Soil Sample #3
Where did you get your sample?			
What do you notice about your soil? What components have you found in your soil?			
How moist is your soil? (dry/moist/wet/very wet?)			
How does your soil feel?			
Does your soil have a scent? ** Use a wafting motion to see if there is an odour.			
Describe your soil. Is it sandy? Loamy? Clay? Are there different sizes of grains within the soil?			
What might be a good use for this type of soil?			
Do you think a plant would grow well in this type of soil? Why or why not?			

Soil Inquiry Project

In this project you will be learning more about soil and how different types of soils can affect the way that plants grow.

Step 1: Research

To start, find three different resources about soils. Use the information on the sheet to keep track of your research.

Resource 1:

Title of Resource: _____

What did you learn? _____

Resource 2:

Title of Resource: _____

What did you learn? _____

Resource 3:

Title of Resource: _____

What did you learn? _____

Step 2: My Inquiry Question

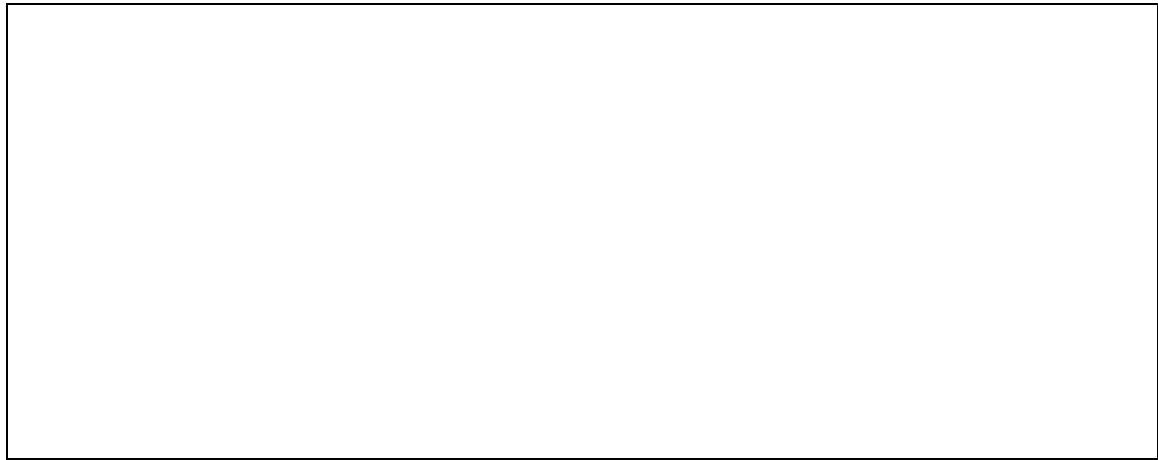
Based on the experiment and my research, I will make an experiment to learn:

Step 3: Hypothesis

My prediction is:

Step 4: Describe your experiment

In the space below, draw a diagram of what your experiment will look like:



What materials will you need for your experiment?

Every Scientist needs to keep notes of their observations. How will you take notes? Will you draw diagrams or will you use words to describe the changes? How often will you plan to observe your plant? What will you take notes about?

Create a sample sheet for your experiment and show it to your teacher.

Step 5: After the experiment

At the end of your experiment, please answer the following questions:

What did you learn about soils and living things through your experiment?

If you could change one thing about your experiment and start over, what might you change? Why?

Peer Project Learning Opportunity

Use this sheet to comment on your learning from your visits with 2 peers or groups.

Name of peer: _____ **Experiment:** _____

Describe the experiment you learned about:

Do you think that this experiment effectively answered the inquiry question? Why or why not?

What did your peer learn from researching and conducting their experiment?

What feedback would you give your peer if they had time to improve their experiment?

What did you learn from your peer's experiment and/or presentation?

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